



State of New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS RFP-2017-OQAI-02-CONSU

FOR

**Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and System for
Home and Community Based Services Survey**

February 8, 2017



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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. Purpose and Overview

This Request for Proposals is published to solicit proposals to field test a survey, Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and System for Home and Community Based Services Survey, including the Supplemental Employment Module to elicit experience of care feedback from Medicaid beneficiaries. The Vendor will be responsible to conduct the survey by collecting data, and analyzing and reporting on the survey data to the Department.

In 2014 the State of New Hampshire was awarded a Testing Experience and Functional Assessment Tools grant from the United States Department, Centers of Medicare and Medicaid Services to field test an experience of care survey to elicit feedback on beneficiaries' experience with the services they receive in the Department's Medicaid Home and Community Based Long-Term Services and Support programs. The survey is designed as a cross-disability survey so that its population agnostic.

The survey will be administered to the populations receiving services through the following Medicaid programs:

1. Developmental Disabilities Waiver;
2. Acquired Brain Disorders Waiver;
3. Choices for Independence Waiver; and
4. Community Mental Health Services for Serious Mental Illness

The experience of care for several of these populations is currently evaluated through a variety of different tools to assist the Department in the quality of the services and how to improve services. The Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and System for Home and Community Based Services Survey is designed to evaluate nine (9) domains defined by the Centers of Medicare and Medicaid regarding clients' experiences' of care with the services they receive in the above four Medicaid programs.

Field testing of the Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and System for Home and Community Based Services Survey that includes the Supplemental Employment Module is required before the Department would consider implementing this survey tool on a long-term basis. The Testing Experience and Functional Assessment Tools grant has presented an opportunity to contract with a Vendor to field test the survey and provide survey results. The Department will use the survey results to determine the future use of this survey as part of the Departments quality monitoring program.

1.2. Request for Proposal Terminology

Acquired Brain Disorder (ABD) Program - The NH developmental services system offers individuals with ABD a wide range of supports and services within their own communities provided in accordance with the Area Agencies that represent specific



geographic regions of NH. The ABD population consists of Medicaid eligible individuals who meet the skilled nursing facility or long term rehabilitation level of care need. ABD is defined as a disruption in brain functioning that is not congenital or caused by birth trauma; presents a severe and life-long disabling condition which significantly impairs a person's ability to function in society; occurs prior to age 60; is attributable to external trauma to the brain such as a motor vehicle incident or fall; anoxic or hypoxic injury to the brain such as cardiopulmonary arrest or carbon monoxide poisoning; infectious diseases such as encephalitis or meningitis; brain tumor; intra cranial surgery or cerebrovascular disruption such as a stroke; toxic exposure; and other neurological disorders such as Huntington's disease or multiple sclerosis that predominantly affect the central nervous system; and is manifested by significant decline in cognitive functioning and ability or deterioration in personality, impulse control, judgment; modulation of mood or awareness of deficits.

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) – AHRQ is an agency within the United States (U.S.) Department of Health and Human Services. AHRQ's mission is to produce evidence to make health care safer, higher quality, more accessible, equitable, and affordable, and to work within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and with other partners to make sure that the evidence is understood and used. More information may be found at: <http://www.ahrq.gov/cahps/index.html>

Days – Days in this RFP will refer to calendar days, Monday through Sunday, including State observed holidays found at: <http://das.nh.gov/hr/index.html>

DHHS – Department of Health and Human Services

Choices for Independence Program (CFI) - The Choices for Independence waiver provides services to seniors and adults with physical disabilities who are financially eligible for Medicaid and medically qualify for the level of care provided in nursing facilities. The Choices for Independence waiver provides a wide range of service choices that enable these eligible adults to stay in their own homes and communities.

Completed Survey – The Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and System Survey for Home and Community Based Services that includes the Supplemental Employment Module is determined a completed survey when 50% of the core questions identified by the Department have been completed.

Community Mental Health Services for Serious Mental Illness: NH offers individuals with Severe Mental Illness a wide range of supports and services within their own communities provided in accordance with contractual agreements with 10 designated Community Mental Health Centers that represent specific geographic regions of NH.

Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS) - The CAHPS surveys were developed by AHRQ and ask consumers and patients to report on and evaluate their experiences with health care. More information can be found at: <https://www.medicare.gov/medicaid/quality-of-care/performance-measurement/cahps-hcbs-survey/index.html>



Developmental Disabilities Program (DD) - The NH developmental services system offers individuals with DD a wide range of supports and services within their own communities provided in accordance with contractual agreements with 10 designated non-profit Area Agencies that represent specific geographic regions of NH. The DD population includes individuals who may have a disability that is attributable to mental retardation, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, autism or a specific learning disability, or any other condition of an individual found to be closely related to mental retardation as it refers to general intellectual functioning or impairment in adaptive behavior or requires treatment similar to that required for mentally retarded individuals; and a disability that originates before such individual attains age 22, has continued or can be expected to continue indefinitely, and constitutes a severe disability to such individual's ability to function normally in society.

Severe Mental Illness (SMI) Population - The NH SMI population consists of people aged 18 and older with an established history of severe and disabling functional impairments in basic adult daily living skills, interpersonal relationship, adaptation to change, and concentration and task performance resulting in significant negative impact on the person's ability to function in society and participate in work, family, and community. The disabling impairments stem from psychiatric diagnoses that include depression, bipolar, schizophrenia, schizoaffective, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, panic, severe personality disorder and eating disorders, and is frequently complicated by dementias/organic brain syndromes, co-occurring substance use and developmental disorders as well.

Starting Sample Size - The number of population members who must be selected in order to have an adequate final or effective sample size. The starting sample size is dependent on factors including variability within the population of interest, desired statistical precision of survey results and expected response rate.

State Fiscal Year (SFY) – A period beginning July 1 and ending June 30.

Statistically Valid: Statically valid is the extent to which the measurements are well-founded and corresponds accurately to the real world. The validity of a measurement tool (for example, a test in education) is considered to be the degree to which the tool measures what it claims to measure.

RFP – Request for Proposals. A Request for Proposals means an invitation to submit a proposal to provide specified goods or services, where the particulars of the goods or services and the price are proposed by the vendor and, for proposals meeting or exceeding specifications, selection is according to identified criteria as provided by RSA 21-I:22-a and RSA 21-I:22-b.

Response Rate - The percentage of completed interviews from the initial sample size needed to draw conclusions that are generalizable to the population of interest and have the desired statistical precision.

Respondent, Member, Beneficiary, and Consumer are terms that are used interchangeably in this RFP to refer to the person who receives Medicaid Home and Community Based Services.



SFY – State Fiscal Year. A period beginning July 1 and ending June 30.

1.3. Contract Period

The Contract resulting from this RFP will be effective March 15, 2017 or upon Governor and Executive Council approval, whichever is later, through March 31, 2018.

2. BACKGROUND AND REQUIRED SERVICES

2.1. New Hampshire DHHS Testing Effective Functional Tools Grant and Consumer Assessment of Health Providers and Systems Survey Home and Community Based Services

New Hampshire is one of 8 states who received a Testing Effective Functional Tools (TEFT) grant from the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). The purpose of the grant is to test new tools to enhance the delivery of Long-Term Care Supports and Services (LTSS). Through the grant New Hampshire is funded to administer two rounds of an experience of care survey to various populations receiving LTSS. The first round of the survey has already been administered to NH populations directly by CMS. The second round of the survey, the Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and System for Home and Community Based Services Survey that includes the Supplemental Employment Module (from herein and after referred to as the "CAHPS HCBS Survey"), will now be administered directly by the Department through a Vendor procured via this RFP.

After the administration of the first round of the survey CMS received approval from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) for the survey to have the CAHPS HCBS Survey certification. The CAHPS HCBS Survey asks program participants to report on their experiences with different aspects of their Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) program, including the staff, case manager, transportation services, and their ability to engage in community life. The survey includes 95 questions about the beneficiary's experience of care, including:

- A few preliminary screening questions to assess whether the individual was capable of responding to the survey.
- Reports on the individual's experience with the HCBS program, typically to say whether something happened, and its frequency.
- Ratings of the individual's overall experience with the HCBS program ("Global Ratings").
- Whether the individual would recommend his or her provider (referred to as "Recommendations").
- Self-descriptions such as age, gender, race, health status, level of education, and employment status (referred to as "Respondent Characteristics").



The Supplemental Employment Module is a separate supplemental survey module developed by CMS that the Department would like to include along with the CAHPS HCBS Survey. The Supplemental Employment Module is a 21 question module on experience with employment services.

In contrast to many other experience or satisfaction surveys that are disability-specific, the CAHPS HCBS Survey was designed so that individuals with different types of disabilities (e.g., physical, cognitive, intellectual, behavioral) could respond to the same questionnaire, thus enabling comparisons across programs and disability groups within a state.

2.2. Results

The selected Vendor will:

1. Field test the Consumer Assessment of Health Providers and Systems for Home and Community Based Services Survey and Supplemental Employment Module to targeted populations;
2. Analyze the survey data; and
3. Produce reports from the survey results.



3. STATEMENT OF WORK

3.1. Covered Populations and Services

- 3.1.1. The Covered Population consists of all NH Medicaid recipients receiving Home and Community Based Services through the:
- 3.1.1.1. Developmental Disabilities Waiver;
 - 3.1.1.2. Acquired Brain Disorders Waiver;
 - 3.1.1.3. Choices for Independence Waiver; and
 - 3.1.1.4. Community Mental Health Services for Serious Mental Illness.

Q1. Describe your experience surveying populations with physical, emotional, and mental disabilities?

3.2. Scope of Services

3.2.1. Survey Administration

- 3.2.1.1. The Vendor shall begin data collection no later than 2 months after the contract effective date and continue for a maximum of one-hundred twenty (120) calendar days.
- 3.2.1.2. The Vendor shall conduct the CAHPS survey and supplemental employment module using the following methodology that:
 - a. Produces statistically valid survey results;
 - b. Makes every effort to achieve the survey response rates outlined in Table 1 below:

Table 1: Survey Response Rates and Populations			
Program	Approximate Program Population	Starting Sample Size	Response Rate
Acquired Brain Disorder (ABD)	242	242	62%
Community Mental Health Services (CMHS)	4,336	1,412	25%
Choices for Independence and Community Based Care Waiver (CFI)	2,904	1,360	25%
Developmental Disabilities Waiver (DD)	5,075	1,432	25%

- c. Ensures the starting sample size is to be the census of the population and the final completed survey's assumes a 95% confidence interval of plus or minus .05% for a composite score or global rating of 50%.
- 3.2.1.3. The Vendor shall obtain informed verbal consent from all survey respondents or their guardians prior to questionnaire or interview administration.



- 3.2.1.4. The Vendor agrees if a respondent has a guardian, the guardian will be contacted prior to contacting the respondent. See RFP Section 3.2.2.15.
- 3.2.1.5. The Vendor shall increase the sample size as necessary to meet the required response rate.
- 3.2.1.6. The Vendor shall use the survey sample contact information provided by the Department.

3.2.2. Data Collection Protocol

- 3.2.2.1. The Vendor shall employ two modes for data collection, Telephone and In-Person, based on the consumer's choice.
- 3.2.2.2. The Vendor shall follow the data collection methodology in Table 2 based on the CAHPS HCBS Survey protocol below for each person identified in the starting sample size in Section 3.2.1.2 and in for any increases of people in the sample size in Section 3.2.1.5 as follows:

Table 2: CAHPS Data Collection Protocol	
Task	Timeframe (from the start date in Section 3.2.1.1)
Send cover letter to the member. Letter will contain information in Section 3.2.2.6	0 days
Initiate systematic contact for all non-respondents so that at least 5 telephone calls are attempted at different times of day, on different days of the week and in different weeks. Call will initiate telephone interview, or schedule face to face interview as appropriate.	7-40 days
Initiate phone calls with Case Managers for members who couldn't be reached.	40-70 days
Final completion of surveys for all modalities.	70 – 90 days

- 3.2.2.3. The Vendor may implement the protocols in RFP Section 3.2.2.2 Table 2 on a rolling basis.
- 3.2.2.4. The Vendor shall use the same CAHPS HCBS Survey and Supplemental Employment module provided for both telephone and in-person.
- 3.2.2.5. The Vendor shall use the CAHPS HCBS Survey and Supplemental Employment module found at: <https://www.medicaid.gov/medicaid/quality-of-care/performance-measurement/cahps-hcbs-survey/index.html>
- 3.2.2.6. The Vendor shall modify skip pattern programming depending on the HCBS program named in Section 1.1 as approved by the Department. The Vendor shall use alternative response pattern options when a respondent finds the standard response options cognitively challenging.
- 3.2.2.7. The Vendor shall, at least seven days prior to the start of contacting members, mail an introductory letter approved by the Department to each person or guardian in the starting sample population that includes at a minimum:
 - a. A brief introduction about the CAHPS; and
 - b. An option for members to call and schedule a face to face or phone interview.



- 3.2.2.8. The Vendor shall submit all written and electronic materials, including letters, and scripts to the Department for review and approval prior to the beginning of data collection.
- 3.2.2.9. The Vendor shall, for every member of the starting sample population, track the number of call attempts and the disposition of each sampled participant. The vendor should follow the American Association for Public Opinion Research (AAPOR) guidelines for disposition tracking and reports found at: [http://www.aapor.org/Standards-Ethics/Standard-Definitions-\(1\).aspx](http://www.aapor.org/Standards-Ethics/Standard-Definitions-(1).aspx)
- 3.2.2.10. The Vendor shall make every reasonable effort to ensure optimal response rates in Section 3.2.1.2, and is expected to pursue contacts with potential respondents until the full data collection protocol has been completed.
- 3.2.2.11. The Vendor shall ensure that sufficient numbers of in-person and telephone interviewers will be available to be in the field for the data collection period to obtain sufficient numbers of completed interviews for each program.
- 3.2.2.12. The Vendor shall record and track returned mailings, incorrect telephone numbers, and incorrect addresses and report them to the Department. Where corrected addresses or telephone numbers become available prior to the end of the data collection phase, attempts will be made to contact the selected respondent using the corrected information.
- 3.2.2.13. The Vendor agrees not offer any incentives for the completion of surveys.
- 3.2.2.14. The Vendor may use proxies for beneficiaries who are not able to participate in the survey. The Vendor agrees that proxies must be someone who:
 - a. Does not have paid responsibilities for providing services/supports to the beneficiary,
 - b. Are not family members and friends who are paid to help the beneficiary
 - c. Is familiar with the services and supports received by the member;
 - d. Has ongoing and regular contact with the member.
- 3.2.2.15. The Vendor using proxies shall adhere to the following protocols:
 - a. Obtain written consent from the beneficiaries or legal guardian for the use of proxies;
 - b. Develop scripts to be approved by the Department that will be delivered prior to the administration of the survey that include language that the proxy should answer the survey questions as they think the beneficiary would;
 - c. Allow beneficiaries to be present when the survey is administered;
 - d. Agree to not alter the text of the CAHPS survey; and
 - e. Omit specific survey questions as informed by the Department.
- 3.2.2.16. The Vendor shall provide written materials and telephone / in-person interviews in respondents' preferred language(s) and interviewers will be proficient in the respondent's preferred language.



- 3.2.2.17. The vendor shall follow the protocols for reporting abuse and neglect provided by the Department for any interaction with the member being surveyed.

Q2. *How you will ensure the targeted response rates in RFP Section 3.2.1.2, Table 1?*

3.2.3. Telephone Phase:

- 3.2.3.1. The Vendor agrees that all members in the starting sample population must be called five times unless they are found to be ineligible (e.g. no longer receive Medicaid HCBS, moved out of NH), away for the duration of the data collection period, or if they explicitly refuse.
- 3.2.3.2. The Vendor shall provide telephone training to all interviewers before they can conduct telephone training.
- 3.2.3.3. The vendor shall call each potential participant to introduce the survey, explain the survey's purpose, and schedule the interview date and time if the survey cannot be completed during the initial call.
- 3.2.3.4. The Vendor agrees a telephone interview shall be attempted within the timeframes defined in the project timeline, for all respondents who have not requested an in-person interview or refused to participate.
- 3.2.3.5. The Vendor shall utilize Computer Assisted Telephone Interview (CATI) software for telephone interviews that shall be capable of:
- a. Scheduling, managing and tracking calls;
 - b. Managing skip patterns;
 - c. Ensuring items are not unintentionally left blank; and
 - d. Including the ability to periodically unobtrusively monitor interviews and data entry.
- 3.2.3.6. The Vendor shall supervise and monitor telephone interviewers throughout the telephone data collection period in order to ensure that they are following established protocols and procedures.
- 3.2.3.7. The Vendor shall institute a telephone monitoring and evaluation program approved by the Department during the telephone component of the data collection protocol and use results from the monitoring and evaluation program for quality improvement (See Section 3.2.5) during the data collection period.
- 3.2.3.8. The Vendor shall make five telephone attempts to reach each eligible person selected into the starting sample. The five attempts will take place on different days and hours including evenings and weekends, See Section 3.2.1.6.
- 3.2.3.9. The Vendor agrees that a telephone attempt must meet the following criteria:
- a. The telephone must ring at least six times with no answer;
 - b. The interviewer reaches a dwelling in which the program participant is residing and is told that the program participant is not available to



- come to the telephone. The interviewer will attempt to schedule a callback date/time;
 - c. The interviewer reaches the respondent but is asked to call back at a more convenient time; or
 - d. The interviewer gets a busy signal during each of five consecutive telephone attempts (if possible, the telephone attempts must be made approximately at 20 minute intervals).
- 3.2.3.10. The Vendor shall submit the CATI interview script and questionnaire to the Department for review and approval prior to implementation of the Telephone Phase.
- 3.2.3.11. The Vendor shall employ staff trained in refusal conversion.

3.2.4. In Person Phase

- 3.2.4.1. The Vendor shall schedule and conduct In-person interviews with clients requesting them.
- 3.2.4.2. The Vendor shall employ separate staff for contacting respondents to schedule in-person interviews.
- 3.2.4.3. The Vendor shall use Computer Assisted Personal Interview (CAPI) technology when conducting in-person interviews.
- 3.2.4.4. The Vendor shall provide in-person training to all interviewers before they can conduct in-person training.
- 3.2.4.5. The Vendor shall contact respondents and schedule in-person interview appointments. The Vendor shall place a reminder call will be made to the respondent 24 hours prior to the interview appointment.
- 3.2.4.6. The Vendor shall supervise and monitor in-person interviewers throughout the data collection period in order to ensure that established protocols and procedures are followed.
- 3.2.4.7. The Vendor shall institute a monitoring and evaluation program approved by the Department, during the in-person component of the data collection protocol and use results from the monitoring and evaluation program for quality improvement (See Section 3.2.5) during the data collection period.
- 3.2.4.8. The Vendor shall, when the event that HCBS staff are present in the home during the in person interview:
 - a. Make every effort to request the interview be conducted in a separate room from the HCBS staff; and
 - b. Make a notation at the end of the survey if the HCBS staff were present during the interview.

Q3. Describe your experience organizing and conducting surveys employing each of the data collection modes (telephone and in-person), including your experience with CATI and CAPI systems.

Q4. What is your approach to Data Collection to ensure the targeted response rates in RFP Section 3.2.1.2 Table 1, and to the use of CATI and CAPI?



3.2.5. Quality Assurance

- 3.2.5.1. The Vendor shall provide a copy of the Vendor's quality assurance plan for data collection to the Department in the Vendor's proposal.
- 3.2.5.2. The Vendor shall ensure the survey is conducted in a way to produce statistically valid survey results, response rates in Section 3.2.1.2, and assumes a 95% confidence interval (See Section 3.2.1.2.3)
- 3.2.5.3. The Vendor shall assure that only surveys meeting the definition of a completed survey (See Definitions Section) are used in data analysis.
- 3.2.5.4. The Vendor shall employ CATI and CAPI systems capable of managing skip patterns, reducing data entry errors and evaluating data for logical consistency and other data quality issues.
- 3.2.5.5. The Vendor shall emphasize data quality in all interviewers training in Sections 3.2.3.2 and 3.2.4.4.
- 3.2.5.6. The Vendor shall have in place and employ an interviewer monitoring system. The Vendor agrees the results of the monitoring shall be used to improve the quality of data collection.
- 3.2.5.7. On a weekly basis the vendor shall institute the following quality assurance activities with interviewers:
 - a. Meet with all interviewers during the data collection phase to discuss data collection efforts and identify any data or collection issues;
 - b. Periodic on site/in-person meetings with interviewers;
 - c. Live monitoring and /or review of recorded interviews; and
 - d. Monitoring and preliminary analysis of data for early detection of potential problems with data collection software or interviewers.
- 3.2.5.8. The Vendor shall review preliminary raw data on a weekly basis for errors. Any potential error should be validated with the interviewer if necessary.
- 3.2.5.9. The Vendor shall provide all data files to the Department within sixty (60) days from the completion of the data collection in a format defined by the Department.
- 3.2.5.10. Prior to delivering data files to the Department, the Vendor shall review data to identify and correct any errors or document issues that cannot be corrected by checking at a minimum, but not limited to:
 - a. Out-of range values; and
 - b. Duplicate responses.
- 3.2.5.11. The Vendor shall identify the following when a data issue is discovered:
 - a. The cause of the data issue;
 - b. The amount of data compromised; and
 - c. When the data was compromised.



- 3.2.5.12. The Vendor shall conduct follow up quality calls for ten (10) % of the in-person respondents interviewed to determine:
- a. If the interview was conducted; and
 - b. Evaluation of the interviewer's timeliness, courteousness and communication skills.

Q5. *What is your proposed Data Quality Management plan and protocol for this project? Be sure to include examples of how you have applied this plan and protocol in similar projects.*

3.2.6. Data Analysis Requirements:

- 3.2.6.1. Upon completion of the final report, the Vendor shall provide raw data of the survey results in a format defined by the Department.
- 3.2.6.2. The Vendor shall complete statistical analysis of the survey data using the CAHPS Marco Program or other standard CAHPS analysis methods that includes but not limited to:
- a. Case-mix adjusted and unadjusted estimates;
 - b. Imputation of missing case-mix variables if necessary;
 - c. Additional individual item measures as specified by the Department;
 - d. All estimates shall include 95% confidence intervals; and
 - e. Survey results by HCBS program and at the state level.
- 3.2.6.3. The Vendor shall perform statistical testing comparing each HCBS program to the state total.
- 3.2.6.4. The Vendor shall provide survey results for the total survey population (all programs combined) must be weighted to reflect the probability of selection of sampled individuals from each program population.
- 3.2.6.5. Using the results of the survey, the vendor should calculate:
- a. Seven (7) Composite measures
 - b. Three (3) Global ratings
 - c. Three (3) Recommendation measures
 - d. Five (5) Unmet needs measures
 - e. One (9) Physical safety measure
- 3.2.6.6. The Vendor shall release only to the Department survey data, reports, or any other information regarding the survey.

Q6. *What is your approach to data analysis for this project?*

3.2.7. Reporting Requirements

- 3.2.7.1. The Vendor shall utilize a report template provided by the Department and release to the Department a report with the following sections:
- a. Executive Summary (1-2 pages):
 - i. Background and Purpose of the Report;
 - ii. Overview of the survey;
 - iii. Notable Results; and
 - iv. Recommendations for improvement;
 - b. Methods:



- i. Development of the survey;
 - ii. Collection of survey data; and
 - iii. Case mix adjustment;
 - c. How to Interpret Results:
 - i. Description of Composites and Ratings; and
 - ii. Description of 95% Confidence Intervals and significance testing;
 - d. Results:
 - i. Survey Respondent Characteristics;
 - ii. Composite measures by HCBS program and for the state;
 - iii. Global Ratings and Recommendations by HCBS program and for the state; and
 - iv. Individual Questions;
 - e. Conclusions and Recommendations:
 - i. Survey Results; and
 - ii. Survey Administration;
 - iii. CAHPS Survey.
 - f. Report writing should conform to the following technical specifications:
 - i. A clearly stated purpose;
 - ii. A clear and logical organizational structure;
 - iii. A logical and orderly presentation of complex ideas;
 - iv. Definitions of medical terms;
 - v. Explanations of technical language;
 - vi. Definitions of acronyms and initials on first reference;
 - vii. The use of short, clear, concise sentences;
 - viii. The use of active voice;
 - ix. Accurate and complete material; and
 - x. Include graphics to be formatted for consistency, adequate spacing, legibility, attractive presentation, and color charts.
- 3.2.7.2. The Vendor agrees that reports must be submitted in both Microsoft Word and PDF format that meet Federal law Section 508 29 USC 794d compliance requirements.

Q7. What is your approach for writing the required reports for this project?

3.2.8. Project Management and Support

- 3.2.8.1. The vendor shall provide a work plan, no later than 30 calendar days after the contract effective date, which shall include, but not be limited to:
 - a. All related and accompanying tasks for each activity;
 - b. Timeframes for completing each activity; and
 - c. The party responsible for completing the activity.
- 3.2.8.2. The Vendor shall host weekly conference calls with Department staff throughout the project period, or as needed upon mutual agreement of the parties.
- 3.2.8.3. The Vendor shall participate in conference calls with CMS grant officers as directed by the Department.



- 3.2.8.4. The Vendor shall provide weekly written progress AAPOR reports based on specifications from the Department, and at a minimum they shall include:
 - a. An outline summarizing the key work performed during the weekly period that includes at minimum, encountered and predicted key issues and problems, scheduled work for the upcoming period including progress against the work plan described in Section 3.2.8.1, and other relevant information.
- 3.2.8.5. The Vendor shall respond to all Department inquiries by email no later than two (2) business days (Monday through Friday, excluding weekends and State Holidays) of receiving the inquiry.

Q8. *Provide a work plan with timelines and milestones for the completion of project deliverables and the tasks necessary to accomplish each deliverable, including review of data, analysis, and final reporting.*

3.3. Staffing and Training

- 3.3.1. The Vendor shall provide a project manager as a single point of contact who will coordinate all aspects of the project.
- 3.3.2. The Vendor shall provide sufficient staffing to complete the survey.
- 3.3.3. The Contractor shall ensure that all personnel have appropriate training, education, experience, and orientation to fulfill the requirements of the positions they hold.
- 3.3.4. Prior to the start of data collection, the Vendor shall design and deliver training to all customer service, interviewing, data collection and, management staff that includes the following elements:
 - 3.3.4.1. An overview of the project including the purpose of the survey, administration, data collection procedures, and general interview guidelines;
 - 3.3.4.2. An overview of the disability groups served by HCBS programs and appropriate disability etiquette;
 - 3.3.4.3. Telephone and/ or in-person interview protocol and procedures;
 - 3.3.4.4. General interviewing techniques including: making initial contacts, dealing with reluctant respondents, conducting interviews in a professional manner, avoiding influencing or biasing responses, following scripts verbatim, using nondirective probes, recording responses accurately, and maintaining a neutral and professional relationship with the respondent;
 - 3.3.4.5. A review of the survey questions with potential issues, prompts, when to use alternate responses, and guidance to the interviewers for specific questions;
 - 3.3.4.6. Importance of quality in administering the survey and coding the correct responses;



3.3.4.7. Confidentiality and data security; and

3.3.4.8. Abuse and neglect reporting.

3.3.5. The Vendor shall submit all training curriculum and materials for review and approval by the Department prior to the start of data collection.

Note: Training resources such as the letters, call centers scripts, and training materials used by CMS in administering round 1 of the HCBC CAHPS survey (See Section 2.1) will be made available to the selected vendor. These resources will have to be modified to meet the standard in this RFP's scope of work.

3.3.6. The Vendor shall ensure that all staff interacting with survey respondents are trained in working with mental health clients and are aware of the protocol for handling clients that may be agitated and for making appropriate referrals of these clients to a Departmental Behavioral Health staff member.

Q9. What is your staffing plan for completing all of the scope of work in this RFP?

Q10. What is your proposed plan to develop and administer the training curriculum and materials required in this contract?

3.4. Data and Document Requirements

3.4.1. The Vendor agrees that ownership of all data collected for, and analysis resulting from this survey belongs exclusively to the Department.

3.4.2. The Vendor shall include "Credits" on all documents, notices, press releases, research reports and other materials, in accordance with Exhibit C, Paragraph #13.

3.4.3. The Vendor agrees to "Prior Approval and Copyright Ownership", in accordance with Exhibit C Paragraph #14.

3.5. Data Confidentiality and Retention

3.5.1. The Vendor shall preserve the confidentiality, integrity, and accessibility of State of NH data with administrative, technical, and physical information security controls and measures that conform to all applicable federal, state, and industry standards, including but not limited to HIPAA, HITECH, NH RSA 359-C, and NIST 800-53v4; industry best practice for security controls implementation. The Vendor will apply these and other controls to its own information processing environment; and ensure the same is applied within any other subcontractor information processing environments utilized to process or store State of NH protected data.

3.5.2. The Vendor shall understand Medicaid data and processing protocols and ensure that all resources assigned to perform contract services shall follow federal regulations and shall not use Medicaid data for any purposes outside the scope of this contract without the express written consent of The Department.

3.5.3. The Vendor shall comply with appropriate security to include procedures defined in HIPAA (See Appendix B, Exhibit I) and the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act. All transactions designed for the storage and retrieval of the information will meet these requirements.



- 3.5.4. The Vendor shall provide a secure method of information transfer that meet State of NH standards and guidelines for secure data exchange which shall provide role-based access designed for the secure transfer of data, files, and reports. All data exchange methods employed for this scope of work for secure transfer of data will meet or exceed minimum industry standards and best practices for secure data transfer, which examples of can be found in FISMA and NIST standards.
- 3.5.5. The Vendor shall ensure that all current employees have been trained in HIPAA compliance and are aware of their responsibilities to protect personal health information (PHI) and other confidential information. Prior to gaining access to confidential information and each year thereafter, all Vendor employees and subcontractors who have access to confidential information shall be required to sign a confidentiality/nondisclosure agreement as part of the Vendor's assignment to provide contract services.
- 3.5.6. Storage
 - 3.5.6.1. The Vendor shall ensure the secure storage of the Department-provided data, ensuring any storage media and data is encrypted, locked, and retains control of access of any storage areas and/or facility.
 - 3.5.6.2. The Vendor shall ensure that all facilities and offices have appropriate layers of physical access controls and monitoring ensuring access is restricted to authorized personnel only.
 - 3.5.6.3. The Vendor shall ensure that daily operations include policies for ensuring that confidential information is secured at the end of the duty day to prevent inadvertent disclosure to unauthorized personnel.
 - 3.5.6.4. The Vendor shall ensure that confidential information in paper form is stored in a separate, secure room or in locked file cabinets, accessible to authorized personnel only. Any data authorized for destruction will be destroyed according to Federal, State, and industry standards and certified and documented in writing by the data destruction agent.
 - 3.5.6.5. The Vendor shall ensure all data, and any copies thereof, is returned to the Department upon the Department request, or no later than contract expiration, whichever occurs first, unless otherwise instructed by the Department to destroy copied data.
 - 3.5.6.6. The vendor will provide a documented process for securely disposing of data, data storage hardware, and media, or intellectual property created for the State of NH; and will obtain and provide written certification for any State data or intellectual property destroyed by the vendor or any subcontractors as a part of ongoing, emergency, and or disaster recovery operations.
 - 3.5.6.7. The Vendor shall ensure continuous control of security access to confidential or protected information, and to ensure that individual accesses are immediately removed or adjusted for any individual whose employment status or positions have changed.



- 3.5.6.8. The vendor will maintain a Breach Notification process for the purpose of notifying DHHS immediately upon discovery or knowledge of a potential breach to State owned confidential, protected, sensitive, personal data, and or intellectual property included in and as a result of this scope work.

Q11. Provide your detailed plan to achieve all the requirements and ensure all the requirements are maintained in Section 3.5. Data Confidentiality and Retention.

3.6. Delegation and Subcontractors

- 3.6.1. If any services required in the Scope of Services are provided, in whole or in part, by a subcontracted agency or provider, the Department must be notified in writing and approve the agreement prior to the initiation of the subcontract. See Appendix B, Exhibit C, paragraph 19 Subcontracts.

3.7. Compliance

3.7.1. Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Standards

The New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is committed to reducing health disparities in New Hampshire. DHHS recognizes that culture and language can have a considerable impact on how individuals access and respond to health and human services. Culturally and linguistically diverse populations experience barriers in their efforts to access services. As a result, DHHS is strongly committed to providing culturally and linguistically competent programs and services for its clients, and as a means of ensuring access to quality care for all. As part of that commitment DHHS continuously strives to improve existing programs and services, and to bring them in line with current best practices.

- 3.7.1.1. DHHS requires all contractors and sub-recipients to provide culturally and linguistically appropriate programs and services in compliance with all applicable federal civil rights laws, which may include: Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Collectively, these laws prohibit discrimination on the grounds of race, color, national origin, disability, age, sex, and religion.
- 3.7.1.2. There are numerous resources available to help recipients increase their ability to meet the needs of culturally, racially and linguistically diverse clients. Some of the main information sources are listed in the Bidder's Reference Guide for Completing the Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services Section of the RFP, and, in the Vendor/RFP section of the DHHS website.



- 3.7.1.3. A key Title VI guidance is the National Standards for Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services in Health Care (CLAS Standards), developed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services in 2000. The CLAS Standards provide specific steps that organizations may take to make their services more culturally and linguistically appropriate. The enhanced CLAS standards, released in 2013, promote effective communication not only with persons with Limited English Proficiency, but also with persons who have other communication needs. The enhanced Standards provide a framework for organizations to best serve the nation's increasingly diverse communities.
- 3.7.1.4. Bidders are expected to consider the need for language services for individuals with Limited English Proficiency as well as other communication needs, served or likely to be encountered in the eligible service population, both in developing their budgets and in conducting their programs and activities.
- 3.7.1.5. Successful applicants will be:
 - a. Required to submit a detailed description of the language assistance services they will provide to LEP persons to ensure meaningful access to their programs and/or services, within 10 days of the date the contract is approved by Governor and Council;
 - b. Monitored on their Federal civil rights compliance using the Federal Civil Rights Compliance Checklist, which can be found in the Vendor/RFP section of the DHHS website.
- 3.7.1.6. The guidance that accompanies Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 requires recipients to take reasonable steps to ensure meaningful access to their programs and services by persons with Limited English Proficiency (LEP persons). The extent of an organization's obligation to provide LEP services is based on an individualized assessment involving the balancing of four factors:
 - a. The number or proportion of LEP persons served or likely to be encountered in the population that is eligible for the program or services (this includes minor children served by the program who have LEP parent(s) or guardian(s) in need of language assistance);
 - b. The frequency with which LEP individuals come in contact with the program, activity or service;
 - c. The importance or impact of the contact upon the lives of the person(s) served by the program, activity or service;
 - d. The resources available to the organization to provide language assistance.
- 3.7.1.7. Bidders are required to complete the TWO (2) steps listed in the Appendix D to this RFP, as part of their Proposal. Completion of these two items is required not only because the provision of language and/or communication assistance is a longstanding requirement under the Federal civil rights laws, but also because consideration of all the required factors will help inform Bidders' program design, which in turn, will allow Bidders to put forth the best possible Proposal.



- 3.7.1.8. For guidance on completing the two steps in Appendix D, please refer to Bidder's Reference Guide for Completing the Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services Addendum of the RFP, which is posted on the DHHS website. <http://www.dhhs.nh.gov/business/forms.htm>.



4. FINANCE

4.1. Financial Standards

- 4.1.1. Funds to support the services solicited in this RFP are available from 100% Federal Funds from the Affordable Care Act: Testing Experience and Functional Assessment Tools (TEFT) grant, CFDA 93.627.
- 4.1.2. Funds must be used in accordance with the provisions of CFDA 93.627.

4.2. Budget

- 4.2.1. The Vendor shall propose a cost by completing Budget Form Appendix C for each State Fiscal Year that shall contain:
 - 4.2.1.1. At a minimum the following budgetary lines: salaries/wages, benefits, travel, consumable supplies, equipment, subcontractors, and indirect costs; and
 - 4.2.1.2. An itemized breakdown of salaries/wages and equipment (e.g. laptops, cellphones, etc.) for both the vendor and any subcontractors.
- 4.2.2. The Vendor shall provide a Budget Narrative in the Cost Proposal. The Budget Narrative must provide justification for the proposed costs, by line item in the budget.
- 4.2.3. The Vendor shall complete Appendix E – Personnel Form for each State Fiscal Year.
- 4.2.4. The final negotiated budget will be formally incorporated into the contract.

4.3. Invoicing

- 4.3.1. The Vendor shall invoice the Department monthly for services performed in accordance with the contract. The Vendors shall ensure the Department receives the applicable invoice within thirty (30) days following the end of the month in which services were provided.

4.4. Financial Management

- 4.4.1. The Vendor shall designate a contact person to resolve any questions or discrepancies regarding invoices. The Vendor shall provide the Department with the name, title, telephone number, fax number and email address of the contract person. The Vendor shall also notify the Department in the event of a change of the designated contact person.



5. PROPOSAL EVALUATION

5.1. Technical Proposal

Questions to be Scored	Maximum Points Available
Bidder's Experience (Q1 and Q3)	100
Data Collection (Q2 and Q4)	50
Data Management & Analysis (Q5 and Q6)	50
Reporting (Q7)	50
Project Management and Support (Q8)	50
Staffing (Q9 and Q10)	50
Data Confidentiality and Retention (Q11)	50
Subtotal	400

5.2. Cost Proposal

Item	Maximum Points Available
Budget and Personnel Form	150
Budget Narrative	50
Subtotal	200

Total Possible Points for this RFP is 600.

6. PROPOSAL PROCESS

6.1. Contact Information – Sole Point of Contact

The sole point of contact, the Procurement Coordinator, relative to the bid or bidding process for this RFP, from the RFP issue date until the selection of a Bidder, and approval of the resulting contract by the Governor and Executive Council is:

State of New Hampshire
Department of Health and Human Services
Cathy Cormier
Procurement Coordinator
Brown Building
129 Pleasant Street
Concord, New Hampshire 03301
Email: Catherine.cormier@dhhs.nh.gov
Phone: 603-271-9076

Other personnel are NOT authorized to discuss this RFP with Bidders before the proposal submission deadline. Contact regarding this RFP with any State personnel not listed above could result in disqualification. The State will not be held responsible for oral responses to Bidders regardless of the source.



6.2. Procurement Timetable

Procurement Timetable		
(All times are according to Eastern Time. DHHS reserves the right to modify these dates at its sole discretion.)		
Item	Action	Date
1.	Release RFP	February 8, 2017
2.	OPTIONAL Letter of Intent Submission Deadline	February 15 2017,
3.	RFP Questions Submission Deadline	February 21, 2017
4.	DHHS Response to Questions Published	February 23, 2017
5.	Technical and Cost Bids Submission Deadline	2:00 pm March 13, 2017

6.3. Letter of Intent

A Letter of Intent to submit a Proposal in response to this RFP is optional.

Receipt of the Letter of Intent by DHHS will be required in order to receive any correspondence regarding this RFP, any RFP amendments, in the event such are produced, or any further materials on this project, including electronic files containing tables required for response to this RFP, any addenda, corrections, schedule modifications, or notifications regarding any informational meetings for Bidders, or responses to comments or questions.

The Letter of Intent may be transmitted by e-mail to the Procurement Coordinator identified in Section 6.1, but must be followed by delivery of a paper copy within two (2) business days to the Procurement Coordinator identified in Section 6.1.

The potential Bidder is responsible for successful e-mail transmission. DHHS will provide confirmation of receipt of the Letter of Intent if the name and e-mail address or fax number of the person to receive such confirmation is provided by the Bidder.

The Letter of Intent must include the name, telephone number, mailing address and e-mail address of the Bidder's designated contact to which DHHS will direct RFP related correspondence.

6.4. Bidders' Questions and Answers

6.4.1. Bidders' Questions

All questions about this RFP, including but not limited to requests for clarification, additional information or any changes to the RFP must be made in writing, citing the RFP page number and part or subpart, and submitted to the Procurement Coordinator identified in Section 6.1.

DHHS may consolidate or paraphrase questions for efficiency and clarity. Questions that are not understood will not be answered. Statements that are not questions will not receive a response.



Questions will only be accepted from those Bidders who have submitted a Letter of Intent by the deadline given in Section 6.2, Procurement Timetable. Questions from all other parties will be disregarded. DHHS will not acknowledge receipt of questions.

The questions may be submitted by fax or e-mail; however, DHHS assumes no liability for assuring accurate and complete fax and e-mail transmissions.

Questions must be received by DHHS by the deadline given in Section 6.2, Procurement Timetable.

6.4.2. Bidders' Conferences

6.4.2.1. There is no Bidders' Conference

6.4.3. DHHS Answers

DHHS intends to issue responses to properly submitted questions by the deadline specified in Section 6.2, Procurement Timetable. Written answers to questions asked will be posted on the DHHS Public website (<http://www.dhhs.nh.gov/business/rfp/index.htm>) and sent as an attachment in an e-mail to the contact identified in accepted Letters of Intent. This date may be subject to change at DHHS discretion.

6.5. RFP Amendment

DHHS reserves the right to amend this RFP, as it deems appropriate prior to the Proposal Submission Deadline on its own initiative or in response to issues raised through Bidder questions. In the event of an amendment to the RFP, DHHS, at its sole discretion, may extend the Proposal Submission Deadline. Bidders who submitted a Letter of Intent will receive notification of the amendment, and the amended language will be posted on the DHHS Internet site.

6.6. Proposal Submission

Proposals submitted in response to this RFP must be received no later than the time and date specified in Section 6.2, Procurement Timetable. Proposals must be addressed for delivery to the Procurement Coordinator specified in Section 6.1, and marked with **RFP-2017-OQAI-02-CONSU**.

Late submissions will not be accepted and will remain unopened. Disqualified submissions will be discarded if not re-claimed by the bidding Bidder by the time the contract is awarded. Delivery of the Proposals shall be at the Bidder's expense. The time of receipt shall be considered when a Proposal has been officially documented by DHHS, in accordance with its established policies, as having been received at the location designated above. The State accepts no responsibility for mislabeled mail. Any and all damage that may occur due to shipping shall be the Bidder's responsibility.

6.7. Compliance

Bidders must be in compliance with applicable federal and state laws, rules and regulations, and applicable policies and procedures adopted by the Department of Health and Human Services currently in effect, and as they may be adopted or amended during the contract period.



6.8. Non-Collusion

The Bidder's required signature on the Transmittal Cover Letter for a Proposal submitted in response to this RFP guarantees that the prices, terms and conditions, and services quoted have been established without collusion with other Bidders and without effort to preclude DHHS from obtaining the best possible competitive proposal.

6.9. Collaborative Proposals

Proposals must be submitted by one organization. Any collaborating organization must be designated as subcontractor subject to the terms of Exhibit C Special Provisions (see Appendix B: Contract Minimum Requirements).

6.10. Validity of Proposals

Proposals submitted in response to this RFP must be valid for two hundred forty (240) days following the Technical and Cost Proposal Submission Deadline specified in Section 6.2, Procurement Timetable or until the effective date of any resulting contract, whichever is later. This period may be extended by mutual written agreement between the Bidder and DHHS.

6.11. Property of Department

All material property submitted and received in response to this RFP will become the property of DHHS and will not be returned to the Bidder. DHHS reserves the right to use any information presented in any Proposal provided that its use does not violate any copyrights or other provisions of law.

6.12. Proposal Withdrawal

Prior to the Technical and Cost Proposal Submission Deadline specified in Section 6.2, Procurement Timetable, a submitted Letter of Intent or Proposal may be withdrawn by submitting a written request for its withdrawal to the Procurement Coordinator specified in Section 6.1.

6.13. Public Disclosure

A Proposal must remain confidential until the Governor and Executive Council have approved a contract as a result of this RFP. A Bidder's disclosure or distribution of Proposals other than to the State will be grounds for disqualification.

The content of each Bidder's Proposal, and addenda thereto, will become public information once the Governor and Executive Council have approved a contract. Any information submitted as part of a bid in response to this RFP may be subject to public disclosure under RSA 91-A. In addition, in accordance with RSA 9-F:1, any contract entered into as a result of this RFP will be made accessible to the public online via the website Transparent NH (www.nh.gov/transparentnh/). Accordingly, business financial information and proprietary information such as trade secrets, business and financials models and forecasts, and proprietary formulas may be exempt from public disclosure under RSA 91-A:5, IV.



Insofar as a Bidder seeks to maintain the confidentiality of its confidential commercial, financial or personnel information, the Bidder must clearly identify in writing the information it claims to be confidential and explain the reasons such information should be considered confidential. This should be done by separate letter identifying by page number and proposal section number the specific information the Bidder claims to be exempt from public disclosure pursuant to RSA 91-A:5.

Each Bidder acknowledges that DHHS is subject to the Right-to-Know Law New Hampshire RSA Chapter 91-A. DHHS shall maintain the confidentiality of the identified confidential information insofar as it is consistent with applicable laws or regulations, including but not limited to New Hampshire RSA Chapter 91-A. In the event DHHS receives a request for the information identified by a Bidder as confidential, DHHS shall notify the Bidder and specify the date DHHS intends to release the requested information. Any effort to prohibit or enjoin the release of the information shall be the Bidder's responsibility and at the Bidder's sole expense. If the Bidder fails to obtain a court order enjoining the disclosure, DHHS may release the information on the date DHHS specified in its notice to the Bidder without incurring any liability to the Bidder.

6.14. Non-Commitment

Notwithstanding any other provision of this RFP, this RFP does not commit DHHS to award a contract. DHHS reserves the right to reject any and all Proposals or any portions thereof, at any time and to cancel this RFP and to solicit new Proposals under a new bid process.

6.15. Liability

By submitting a Letter of Intent to submit a Proposal in response to this RFP, a Bidder agrees that in no event shall the State be either responsible for or held liable for any costs incurred by a Bidder in the preparation or submittal of or otherwise in connection with a Proposal, or for work performed prior to the Effective Date of a resulting contract.

6.16. Request for Additional Information or Materials

During the period from the Technical and Cost Proposal Submission Deadline, specified in Section 6.2, Procurement Timeline, to the date of Contractor selection, DHHS may request of any Bidder additional information or materials needed to clarify information presented in the Proposal. Such a request will be issued in writing and will not provide a Bidder with an opportunity to change, extend, or otherwise amend its Proposal in intent or substance. Key personnel shall be available for interviews.

6.17. Oral Presentations and Discussions

DHHS reserves the right to require some or all Bidders to make oral presentations of their Proposal. Any and all costs associated with an oral presentation shall be borne entirely by the Bidder. Bidders may be requested to provide demonstrations of any proposed automated systems. Such a request will be in writing and will not provide a Bidder with an opportunity to change, extend, or otherwise amend its proposal in intent or substance.



6.18. Contract Negotiations and Unsuccessful Bidder Notice

If a Bidder(s) is selected, the State will notify the Successful Bidder(s) in writing of their selection and the State's desire to enter into contract negotiations. Until the State successfully completes negotiations with the selected Bidder(s), all submitted Proposals remain eligible for selection by the State. In the event contract negotiations are unsuccessful with the selected Bidder(s), the evaluation team may recommend another Bidder(s).

In order to protect the integrity of the bidding process, notwithstanding RSA 91-A:4, no information shall be available to the public, or to the members of the general court or its staff, concerning specific responses to requests for bids (RFBs), requests for proposals (RFPs), requests for applications (RFAs), or similar requests for submission for the purpose of procuring goods or services or awarding contracts from the time the request is made public until the closing date for responses except that information specifically allowed by RSA 21-G:37.

6.19. Scope of Award and Contract Award Notice

DHHS reserves the right to award a service, part of a service, group of services, or total Proposal and to reject any and all Proposals in whole or in part. The notice of the intended contract award will be sent by certified mail or overnight mail to the selected Bidder. A contract award is contingent on approval by the Governor and Executive Council.

If a contract is awarded, the Bidder must obtain written consent from the State before any public announcement or news release is issued pertaining to any contract award.

6.20. Site Visits

The Department may, at its sole discretion, at any time prior to contract award, conduct a site visit at the bidder's location or at any other location deemed appropriate by the Department, in order to determine the bidder's capacity to satisfy the terms of this RFP/RFB/RFA. The Department may also require the bidder to produce additional documents, records, or materials relevant to determining the bidder's capacity to satisfy the terms of this RFP/RFB/RFA. Any and all costs associated with any site visit or requests for documents shall be borne entirely by the bidder.

6.21. Protest of Intended Award

Any challenge of an award made or otherwise related to this RFP shall be governed by RSA 21-G:37, and the procedures and terms of this RFP. The procedure set forth in RSA 21-G:37, IV, shall be the sole remedy available to challenge any award resulting from this RFP. In the event that any legal action is brought challenging this RFP and selection process, outside of the review process identified in RSA 21-G:37, IV, and in the event that the State of New Hampshire prevails, the challenger agrees to pay all expenses of such action, including attorney's fees and costs at all stages of litigation.

6.22. Contingency

Aspects of the award may be contingent upon changes to State or federal laws and regulations.



7. PROPOSAL OUTLINE AND REQUIREMENTS

7.1. Presentation and Identification

7.1.1. Overview

- 7.1.1.1. Bidders are expected to examine all documentation and other requirements. Failure to observe the terms and conditions in completion of the Proposal are at the Bidder's risk and may, at the discretion of the State, result in disqualification.
- 7.1.1.2. Proposals must conform to all instructions, conditions, and requirements included in the RFP.
- 7.1.1.3. Acceptable Proposals must offer all services identified in Section 3 - Statement of Work, unless an allowance for partial scope is specifically described in Section 3, and agree to the contract conditions specified throughout the RFP.
- 7.1.1.4. Proposals should be received by the Technical and Cost Proposal Submission Deadline specified in Section 6.2, Procurement Timetable, and delivered, under sealed cover, to the Procurement Coordinator specified in Section 6.1.
- 7.1.1.5. Fax or email copies will not be accepted.
- 7.1.1.6. Bidders shall submit a Technical Proposal and a Cost Proposal.

7.1.2. Presentation

- 7.1.2.1. Original copies of Technical and Cost Proposals in separate three-ring binders.
- 7.1.2.2. Copies in a bound format (for example wire bound, coil bound, saddle stitch, perfect bound etc. at minimum stapled) NOTE: loose Proposals will not be accepted.
- 7.1.2.3. Major sections of the Proposal separated by tabs.
- 7.1.2.4. Standard eight and one-half by eleven inch (8 ½" x 11") white paper.
- 7.1.2.5. Font size of 10 or larger.

7.1.3. Technical Proposal

- 7.1.3.1. Original in 3 ring binder marked as "Original."
- 7.1.3.2. The original Transmittal Letter (described in Section 7.2.2.1) must be the first page of the Technical Proposal and marked as "Original."
- 7.1.3.3. 4 copies in bound format marked as "Copy."
- 7.1.3.4. 1 electronic copy (divided into folders that correspond to and are labeled the same as the hard copies) on CD or Memory Card/Thumb Drive. NOTE: In the event of any discrepancy between the copies, the hard copy marked "Original" will control.
- 7.1.3.5. Front cover labeled with:
 - a. Name of company / organization;



- b. RFP#; and
- c. Technical Proposal.

7.1.4. Cost Proposal

- 7.1.4.1. Original in 3 ring binder marked as "Original."
- 7.1.4.2. A copy of the Transmittal Letter marked as "Copy" as the first page of the Cost Proposal.
- 7.1.4.3. 3 copies in bound format marked as "Copy."
- 7.1.4.4. 1 electronic copy (divided into folders that correspond to and are labeled the same as the hard copies). NOTE: In the event of any discrepancy between the copies, the hard copy marked "Original" will control.
- 7.1.4.5. Front cover labeled with:
 - a. Name of company / organization;
 - b. RFP#; and
 - c. Cost Proposal.

7.2. Outline and Detail

7.2.1. Proposal Contents – Outline

Each Proposal shall contain the following, in the order described in this section:
(Each of these components must be separate from the others and uniquely identified with labeled tabs.)

7.2.2. Technical Proposal Contents – Detail

7.2.2.1. Transmittal Cover Letter

The Transmittal Cover Letter must be:

- a. On the Bidding company's letterhead;
- b. Signed by an individual who is authorized to bind the Bidding Company to all statements, including services and prices contained in the Proposal; and
- c. Contain the following:
 - i. Identify the submitting organization;
 - ii. Identify the name, title, mailing address, telephone number and email address of the person authorized by the organization to contractually obligate the organization;
 - iii. Identify the name, title, mailing address, telephone number and email address of the fiscal agent of the organization;
 - iv. Identify the name, title, telephone number, and e-mail address of the person who will serve as the Bidder's representative for all matters relating to the RFP;
 - v. Acknowledge that the Bidder has read this RFP, understands it, and agrees to be bound by its requirements;
 - vi. Explicitly state acceptance of terms, conditions, and general instructions stated in Section 8 Mandatory Business Specifications, Contract Terms and Conditions;
 - vii. Confirm that Appendix A Exceptions to Terms and Conditions is included in the proposal;



- viii. Explicitly state that the Bidder's submitted Proposal is valid for a minimum of two hundred forty (240) days from the Technical and Cost Proposal Submission Deadline specified in Section 6.2;
- ix. Date Proposal was submitted; and
- x. Signature of authorized person.

7.2.2.2. Table of Contents

The required elements of the Proposal shall be numbered sequentially and represented in the Table of Contents.

7.2.2.3. Executive Summary

The Bidder shall submit an executive summary to:

- a. Provide DHHS with an overview of the Bidder's organization and what is intended to be provided by the Bidder;
- b. Demonstrate the Bidder's understanding of the services requested in this RFP and any problems anticipated in accomplishing the work;
- c. Show the Bidder's overall design of the project in response to achieving the deliverables as defined in this RFP; and
- d. Specifically demonstrate the Bidder's familiarity with the project elements, its solutions to the problems presented and knowledge of the requested services.

7.2.2.4. Proposal Narrative, Project Approach, and Technical Response

The Bidder must answer all questions and must include all items requested for the Proposal to be considered. The Bidder must address every section of Section 3 Statement of Work, even though certain sections may not be scored.

Responses must be in the same sequence and format as listed in Section 3 Statement of Work and must, at a minimum, cite the relevant section, subsection, and paragraph number, as appropriate.

7.2.2.5. Description of Organization

Bidders must include in their Proposal a summary of their company's organization, management and history and how the organization's experience demonstrates the ability to meet the needs of requirements in this RFP.

- a. At a minimum respond to:
 - i. General company overview;
 - ii. Ownership and subsidiaries;
 - iii. Company background and primary lines of business;
 - iv. Number of employees;
 - v. Headquarters and Satellite Locations;
 - vi. Current project commitments;
 - vii. Major government and private sector clients; and
 - viii. Mission Statement.
- b. This section must include information on:
 - i. The programs and activities of the organization;
 - ii. The number of people served; and
 - iii. Programmatic accomplishments.
- c. And also include:



- i. Reasons why the organization is capable of effectively completing the services outlined in the RFP; and
 - ii. All strengths that are considered an asset to the program.
 - d. The Bidder should demonstrate:
 - i. The length, depth, and applicability of all prior experience in providing the requested services;
 - ii. The skill and experience of staff and the length, depth and applicability of all prior experience in providing the requested services.

7.2.2.6. Bidder's References

The Proposal must include relevant information about at least three (3) similar or related contracts or subcontracts awarded to the Bidder. Particular emphasis should be placed on previous contractual experience with government agencies. DHHS reserves the right to contact any reference so identified. The information must contain the following:

- a. Name, address, telephone number, and website of the customer;
- b. A description of the work performed under each contract;
- c. A description of the nature of the relationship between the Bidder and the customer;
- d. Name, telephone number, and e-mail address of the person whom DHHS can contact as a reference; and
- e. Dates of performance.

7.2.2.7. Staffing and Resumes

Each Bidder shall submit an organizational chart and a staffing plan for the program. For persons currently on staff with the Bidder, the Bidder shall provide names, title, qualifications and resumes. For staff to be hired, the Bidder shall describe the hiring process and the qualifications for the position and the job description. The State reserves the right to accept or reject dedicated staff individuals.

7.2.2.8. Subcontractor Letters of Commitment (if applicable)

If subcontractors are part of this proposal, signed letters of commitment from the subcontractor are required as part of the RFP. The Bidder shall be solely responsible for meeting all requirements and terms and conditions specified in this RFP, its Proposal, and any resulting contract, regardless of whether it proposes to use any subcontractors. The Bidder and any subcontractors shall commit to the entire contract period stated within the RFP, unless a change of subcontractors is specifically agreed to by the State. The State reserves the right to approve or reject subcontractors for this project and to require the Bidder to replace subcontractors found to be unacceptable.

7.2.2.9. License, Certificates and Permits as Required

This includes: a Certificate of Good Standing or assurance of obtaining registration with the New Hampshire Office of the Secretary of State. Required licenses or permits to provide services as described in Section 3 of this RFP.

7.2.2.10. Affiliations – Conflict of Interest



The Bidder must include a statement regarding any and all affiliations that might result in a conflict of interest. Explain the relationship and how the affiliation would not represent a conflict of interest.

7.2.2.11. Required Attachments

The following are required statements that must be included with the Proposal. The Bidder must complete the correlating forms found in the RFP Appendices and submit them as the "Required Attachments" section of the Proposal.

- a. Bidder Information and Declarations: Exceptions to Terms and Conditions, Appendix A
- b. CLAS Requirements, Appendix D
- c. Technology Requirements, Appendix F

7.2.3. Cost Proposal Contents – Detail

7.2.3.1. Cost Bid Requirements

Cost proposals may be adjusted based on the final negotiations of the scope of work. See Section 4, Finance for specific requirements.

7.2.3.2. Statement of Bidder's Financial Condition

The organization's financial solvency will be evaluated. The Bidder's ability to demonstrate adequate financial resources for performance of the contract or the ability to obtain such resources as required during performance under this contract will be considered.

Each Bidder must submit audited financial statements for the four (4) most recently completed fiscal years that demonstrate the Bidder's organization is in sound financial condition. Statements must include a report by an independent auditor that expresses an unqualified or qualified opinion as to whether the accompanying financial statements are presented fairly in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A disclaimer of opinion, an adverse opinion, a special report, a review report, or a compilation report will be grounds for rejection of the proposal.

Complete financial statements must include the following:

- a. Opinion of Certified Public Accountant
- b. Balance Sheet
- c. Income Statement
- d. Statement of Cash Flow
- e. Statement of Stockholder's Equity of Fund Balance
- f. Complete Financial Notes
- g. Consolidating and Supplemental Financial Schedules



A Bidder, which is part of a consolidated financial statement, may file the audited consolidated financial statements if it includes the consolidating schedules as supplemental information. A Bidder, which is part of a consolidated financial statement, but whose certified consolidated financial statements do not contain the consolidating schedules as supplemental information, shall, in addition to the audited consolidated financial statements, file unaudited financial statements for the Bidder alone accompanied by a certificate of authenticity signed by an officer of the corporation, partner, or owner under penalty of unsworn falsification which attests that the financial statements are correct in all material respects.

If a bidder is not otherwise required by either state or federal statute to obtain a certification of audit of its financial statements, and thereby elects not to obtain such certification of audit, the bidder shall submit as part of its proposal:

- a. Uncertified financial statements; and
- b. A certificate of authenticity which attests that the financial statements are correct in all material respects and is signed by an officer of the corporation, partner, or owner under penalty of unsworn falsification.

7.2.3.3. Required Attachments

The following are required statements that must be included with the Proposal. The Bidder must complete the correlating forms found in the RFP Appendices and submit them as the "Required Attachments" section of the Proposal.

- a. Bidder Information and Declarations:
 - i. Exceptions to Terms and Conditions, Appendix A
 - ii. Budget Form, Appendix C
 - iii. Personnel Sheet, Appendix E
 - iv. Budget Narrative (See Section 4.2.2)

8. MANDATORY BUSINESS SPECIFICATIONS

8.1. Contract Terms, Conditions and Liquidated Damages, Forms

8.1.1. Contract Terms and Conditions

The State of New Hampshire sample contract is attached; Bidder to agree to minimum requirement as set forth in the Appendix B.

8.1.2. Liquidated Damages

The State intends to negotiate with the awarded vendor to include liquidated damages in the Contract in the event any deliverables are not met.



The Department and the Contractor agree that the actual damages that the Department will sustain in the event the Vendor fails to maintain the required performance standards throughout the life of the contract will be uncertain in amount and difficult and impracticable to determine. The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that any failure to achieve required performance levels by the Contractor will more than likely substantially delay and disrupt the Department's operations. Therefore the parties agree that liquidated damages shall be determined as part of the contract specifications.

Assessment of liquidated damages shall be in addition to, and not in lieu of, such other remedies as may be available to the Department. Except and to the extent expressly provided herein, the Department shall be entitled to recover liquidated damages applicable to any given incident.

The Department will determine compliance and assessment of liquidated damages as often as it deems reasonable necessary to ensure required performance standards are met. Amounts due the State as liquidated damages may be deducted by the State from any fees payable to the Contractor and any amount outstanding over and above the amounts deducted from the invoice will be promptly tendered by check from the Contractor to the State.

9. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

9.1. Appendix A – Exceptions to Terms and Conditions

9.2. Appendix B – Contract Minimum Requirements

(Note: Appendix B is a reference document that is provided to assist Vendors in completing Appendix A- Exceptions to Terms and Conditions. Please do not complete and do not return Appendix B with your proposal.)

9.3. Appendix C – Budget

9.4. Appendix D – CLAS Requirements

9.5. Appendix E – Personnel Sheet

9.6. Appendix F – Information Technology Requirements

EXCEPTIONS TO TERMS AND CONDITIONS

RESPONDERS ARE CAUTIONED THAT BY TAKING ANY EXCEPTION THEY MAY BE MATERIALLY DEVIATING FROM THE RFP SPECIFICATIONS. IF A RESPONDER MATERIALLY DEVIATES FROM A RFP SPECIFICATION, ITS PROPOSAL MAY BE REJECTED.

INSTRUCTIONS: Responders must explicitly list all exceptions to State of NH minimum terms and conditions. Reference the actual number of the State's term and condition and Exhibit number for which an exception(s) is being taken. If no exceptions exist, state "NONE" specifically on the form below. Whether or not exceptions are taken, the Responder must sign and date this form and submit it as part of their Proposal. *(Add additional pages if necessary.)*

Responder Name:	
<u>Term & Condition Number/Provision</u>	<u>Explanation of Exception</u>

Date _____

Notice: This agreement and all of its attachments shall become public upon submission to Governor and Executive Council for approval. Any information that is private, confidential or proprietary must be clearly identified to the agency and agreed to in writing prior to signing the contract.

AGREEMENT

The State of New Hampshire and the Contractor hereby mutually agree as follows:

GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. IDENTIFICATION.

1.1 State Agency Name		1.2 State Agency Address	
1.3 Contractor Name		1.4 Contractor Address	
1.5 Contractor Phone Number	1.6 Account Number	1.7 Completion Date	1.8 Price Limitation
1.9 Contracting Officer for State Agency		1.10 State Agency Telephone Number	
1.11 Contractor Signature		1.12 Name and Title of Contractor Signatory	
1.13 Acknowledgement: State of _____, County of _____ On _____, before the undersigned officer, personally appeared the person identified in block 1.12, or satisfactorily proven to be the person whose name is signed in block 1.11, and acknowledged that s/he executed this document in the capacity indicated in block 1.12.			
1.13.1 Signature of Notary Public or Justice of the Peace <div style="text-align: center;">[Seal]</div>			
1.13.2 Name and Title of Notary or Justice of the Peace			
1.14 State Agency Signature <div style="text-align: right;">Date:</div>		1.15 Name and Title of State Agency Signatory	
1.16 Approval by the N.H. Department of Administration, Division of Personnel (<i>if applicable</i>) <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> By: _____ Director, On: _____ </div>			
1.17 Approval by the Attorney General (Form, Substance and Execution) (<i>if applicable</i>) <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> By: _____ On: _____ </div>			
1.18 Approval by the Governor and Executive Council (<i>if applicable</i>) <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> By: _____ On: _____ </div>			

2. EMPLOYMENT OF CONTRACTOR/SERVICES TO BE PERFORMED. The State of New Hampshire, acting through the agency identified in block 1.1 ("State"), engages contractor identified in block 1.3 ("Contractor") to perform, and the Contractor shall perform, the work or sale of goods, or both, identified and more particularly described in the attached EXHIBIT A which is incorporated herein by reference ("Services").

3. EFFECTIVE DATE/COMPLETION OF SERVICES.

3.1 Notwithstanding any provision of this Agreement to the contrary, and subject to the approval of the Governor and Executive Council of the State of New Hampshire, if applicable, this Agreement, and all obligations of the parties hereunder, shall become effective on the date the Governor and Executive Council approve this Agreement as indicated in block 1.18, unless no such approval is required, in which case the Agreement shall become effective on the date the Agreement is signed by the State Agency as shown in block 1.14 ("Effective Date").

3.2 If the Contractor commences the Services prior to the Effective Date, all Services performed by the Contractor prior to the Effective Date shall be performed at the sole risk of the Contractor, and in the event that this Agreement does not become effective, the State shall have no liability to the Contractor, including without limitation, any obligation to pay the Contractor for any costs incurred or Services performed. Contractor must complete all Services by the Completion Date specified in block 1.7.

4. CONDITIONAL NATURE OF AGREEMENT.

Notwithstanding any provision of this Agreement to the contrary, all obligations of the State hereunder, including, without limitation, the continuance of payments hereunder, are contingent upon the availability and continued appropriation of funds, and in no event shall the State be liable for any payments hereunder in excess of such available appropriated funds. In the event of a reduction or termination of appropriated funds, the State shall have the right to withhold payment until such funds become available, if ever, and shall have the right to terminate this Agreement immediately upon giving the Contractor notice of such termination. The State shall not be required to transfer funds from any other account to the Account identified in block 1.6 in the event funds in that Account are reduced or unavailable.

5. CONTRACT PRICE/PRICE LIMITATION/ PAYMENT.

5.1 The contract price, method of payment, and terms of payment are identified and more particularly described in EXHIBIT B which is incorporated herein by reference.

5.2 The payment by the State of the contract price shall be the only and the complete reimbursement to the Contractor for all expenses, of whatever nature incurred by the Contractor in the performance hereof, and shall be the only and the complete compensation to the Contractor for the Services. The State shall have no liability to the Contractor other than the contract price.

5.3 The State reserves the right to offset from any amounts otherwise payable to the Contractor under this Agreement those liquidated amounts required or permitted by N.H. RSA 80:7 through RSA 80:7-c or any other provision of law.

5.4 Notwithstanding any provision in this Agreement to the contrary, and notwithstanding unexpected circumstances, in no event shall the total of all payments authorized, or actually made hereunder, exceed the Price Limitation set forth in block 1.8.

6. COMPLIANCE BY CONTRACTOR WITH LAWS AND REGULATIONS/ EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY.

6.1 In connection with the performance of the Services, the Contractor shall comply with all statutes, laws, regulations, and orders of federal, state, county or municipal authorities which impose any obligation or duty upon the Contractor, including, but not limited to, civil rights and equal opportunity laws. This may include the requirement to utilize auxiliary aids and services to ensure that persons with communication disabilities, including vision, hearing and speech, can communicate with, receive information from, and convey information to the Contractor. In addition, the Contractor shall comply with all applicable copyright laws.

6.2 During the term of this Agreement, the Contractor shall not discriminate against employees or applicants for employment because of race, color, religion, creed, age, sex, handicap, sexual orientation, or national origin and will take affirmative action to prevent such discrimination.

6.3 If this Agreement is funded in any part by monies of the United States, the Contractor shall comply with all the provisions of Executive Order No. 11246 ("Equal Employment Opportunity"), as supplemented by the regulations of the United States Department of Labor (41 C.F.R. Part 60), and with any rules, regulations and guidelines as the State of New Hampshire or the United States issue to implement these regulations. The Contractor further agrees to permit the State or United States access to any of the Contractor's books, records and accounts for the purpose of ascertaining compliance with all rules, regulations and orders, and the covenants, terms and conditions of this Agreement.

7. PERSONNEL.

7.1 The Contractor shall at its own expense provide all personnel necessary to perform the Services. The Contractor warrants that all personnel engaged in the Services shall be qualified to perform the Services, and shall be properly licensed and otherwise authorized to do so under all applicable laws.

7.2 Unless otherwise authorized in writing, during the term of this Agreement, and for a period of six (6) months after the Completion Date in block 1.7, the Contractor shall not hire, and shall not permit any subcontractor or other person, firm or corporation with whom it is engaged in a combined effort to perform the Services to hire, any person who is a State employee or official, who is materially involved in the procurement, administration or performance of this

Agreement. This provision shall survive termination of this Agreement.

7.3 The Contracting Officer specified in block 1.9, or his or her successor, shall be the State's representative. In the event of any dispute concerning the interpretation of this Agreement, the Contracting Officer's decision shall be final for the State.

8. EVENT OF DEFAULT/REMEDIES.

8.1 Any one or more of the following acts or omissions of the Contractor shall constitute an event of default hereunder ("Event of Default"):

8.1.1 failure to perform the Services satisfactorily or on schedule;

8.1.2 failure to submit any report required hereunder; and/or

8.1.3 failure to perform any other covenant, term or condition of this Agreement.

8.2 Upon the occurrence of any Event of Default, the State may take any one, or more, or all, of the following actions:

8.2.1 give the Contractor a written notice specifying the Event of Default and requiring it to be remedied within, in the absence of a greater or lesser specification of time, thirty (30) days from the date of the notice; and if the Event of Default is not timely remedied, terminate this Agreement, effective two (2) days after giving the Contractor notice of termination;

8.2.2 give the Contractor a written notice specifying the Event of Default and suspending all payments to be made under this Agreement and ordering that the portion of the contract price which would otherwise accrue to the Contractor during the period from the date of such notice until such time as the State determines that the Contractor has cured the Event of Default shall never be paid to the Contractor;

8.2.3 set off against any other obligations the State may owe to the Contractor any damages the State suffers by reason of any Event of Default; and/or

8.2.4 treat the Agreement as breached and pursue any of its remedies at law or in equity, or both.

9. DATA/ACCESS/CONFIDENTIALITY/PRESERVATION.

9.1 As used in this Agreement, the word "data" shall mean all information and things developed or obtained during the performance of, or acquired or developed by reason of, this Agreement, including, but not limited to, all studies, reports, files, formulae, surveys, maps, charts, sound recordings, video recordings, pictorial reproductions, drawings, analyses, graphic representations, computer programs, computer printouts, notes, letters, memoranda, papers, and documents, all whether finished or unfinished.

9.2 All data and any property which has been received from the State or purchased with funds provided for that purpose under this Agreement, shall be the property of the State, and shall be returned to the State upon demand or upon termination of this Agreement for any reason.

9.3 Confidentiality of data shall be governed by N.H. RSA chapter 91-A or other existing law. Disclosure of data requires prior written approval of the State.

10. TERMINATION. In the event of an early termination of this Agreement for any reason other than the completion of the Services, the Contractor shall deliver to the Contracting Officer, not later than fifteen (15) days after the date of termination, a report ("Termination Report") describing in detail all Services performed, and the contract price earned, to and including the date of termination. The form, subject matter, content, and number of copies of the Termination Report shall be identical to those of any Final Report described in the attached EXHIBIT A.

11. CONTRACTOR'S RELATION TO THE STATE. In the performance of this Agreement the Contractor is in all respects an independent contractor, and is neither an agent nor an employee of the State. Neither the Contractor nor any of its officers, employees, agents or members shall have authority to bind the State or receive any benefits, workers' compensation or other emoluments provided by the State to its employees.

12. ASSIGNMENT/DELEGATION/SUBCONTRACTS.

The Contractor shall not assign, or otherwise transfer any interest in this Agreement without the prior written notice and consent of the State. None of the Services shall be subcontracted by the Contractor without the prior written notice and consent of the State.

13. INDEMNIFICATION. The Contractor shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the State, its officers and employees, from and against any and all losses suffered by the State, its officers and employees, and any and all claims, liabilities or penalties asserted against the State, its officers and employees, by or on behalf of any person, on account of, based or resulting from, arising out of (or which may be claimed to arise out of) the acts or omissions of the Contractor. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing herein contained shall be deemed to constitute a waiver of the sovereign immunity of the State, which immunity is hereby reserved to the State. This covenant in paragraph 13 shall survive the termination of this Agreement.

14. INSURANCE.

14.1 The Contractor shall, at its sole expense, obtain and maintain in force, and shall require any subcontractor or assignee to obtain and maintain in force, the following insurance:

14.1.1 comprehensive general liability insurance against all claims of bodily injury, death or property damage, in amounts of not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 aggregate ; and

14.1.2 special cause of loss coverage form covering all property subject to subparagraph 9.2 herein, in an amount not less than 80% of the whole replacement value of the property.

14.2 The policies described in subparagraph 14.1 herein shall be on policy forms and endorsements approved for use in the State of New Hampshire by the N.H. Department of Insurance, and issued by insurers licensed in the State of New Hampshire.

Appendix B

14.3 The Contractor shall furnish to the Contracting Officer identified in block 1.9, or his or her successor, a certificate(s) of insurance for all insurance required under this Agreement. Contractor shall also furnish to the Contracting Officer identified in block 1.9, or his or her successor, certificate(s) of insurance for all renewal(s) of insurance required under this Agreement no later than thirty (30) days prior to the expiration date of each of the insurance policies. The certificate(s) of insurance and any renewals thereof shall be attached and are incorporated herein by reference. Each certificate(s) of insurance shall contain a clause requiring the insurer to provide the Contracting Officer identified in block 1.9, or his or her successor, no less than thirty (30) days prior written notice of cancellation or modification of the policy.

15. WORKERS' COMPENSATION.

15.1 By signing this agreement, the Contractor agrees, certifies and warrants that the Contractor is in compliance with or exempt from, the requirements of N.H. RSA chapter 281-A (*"Workers' Compensation"*).

15.2 To the extent the Contractor is subject to the requirements of N.H. RSA chapter 281-A, Contractor shall maintain, and require any subcontractor or assignee to secure and maintain, payment of Workers' Compensation in connection with activities which the person proposes to undertake pursuant to this Agreement. Contractor shall furnish the Contracting Officer identified in block 1.9, or his or her successor, proof of Workers' Compensation in the manner described in N.H. RSA chapter 281-A and any applicable renewal(s) thereof, which shall be attached and are incorporated herein by reference. The State shall not be responsible for payment of any Workers' Compensation premiums or for any other claim or benefit for Contractor, or any subcontractor or employee of Contractor, which might arise under applicable State of New Hampshire Workers' Compensation laws in connection with the performance of the Services under this Agreement.

16. WAIVER OF BREACH. No failure by the State to enforce any provisions hereof after any Event of Default shall be deemed a waiver of its rights with regard to that Event of Default, or any subsequent Event of Default. No express failure to enforce any Event of Default shall be deemed a waiver of the right of the State to enforce each and all of the provisions hereof upon any further or other Event of Default on the part of the Contractor.

17. NOTICE. Any notice by a party hereto to the other party shall be deemed to have been duly delivered or given at the time of mailing by certified mail, postage prepaid, in a United States Post Office addressed to the parties at the addresses given in blocks 1.2 and 1.4, herein.

18. AMENDMENT. This Agreement may be amended, waived or discharged only by an instrument in writing signed by the parties hereto and only after approval of such amendment, waiver or discharge by the Governor and Executive Council of the State of New Hampshire unless no

such approval is required under the circumstances pursuant to State law, rule or policy.

19. CONSTRUCTION OF AGREEMENT AND TERMS.

This Agreement shall be construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New Hampshire, and is binding upon and inures to the benefit of the parties and their respective successors and assigns. The wording used in this Agreement is the wording chosen by the parties to express their mutual intent, and no rule of construction shall be applied against or in favor of any party.

20. THIRD PARTIES. The parties hereto do not intend to benefit any third parties and this Agreement shall not be construed to confer any such benefit.

21. HEADINGS. The headings throughout the Agreement are for reference purposes only, and the words contained therein shall in no way be held to explain, modify, amplify or aid in the interpretation, construction or meaning of the provisions of this Agreement.

22. SPECIAL PROVISIONS. Additional provisions set forth in the attached EXHIBIT C are incorporated herein by reference.

23. SEVERABILITY. In the event any of the provisions of this Agreement are held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be contrary to any state or federal law, the remaining provisions of this Agreement will remain in full force and effect.

24. ENTIRE AGREEMENT. This Agreement, which may be executed in a number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, constitutes the entire Agreement and understanding between the parties, and supersedes all prior Agreements and understandings relating hereto.



SPECIAL PROVISIONS

Contractors Obligations: The Contractor covenants and agrees that all funds received by the Contractor under the Contract shall be used only as payment to the Contractor for services provided to eligible individuals and, in the furtherance of the aforesaid covenants, the Contractor hereby covenants and agrees as follows:

1. **Compliance with Federal and State Laws:** If the Contractor is permitted to determine the eligibility of individuals such eligibility determination shall be made in accordance with applicable federal and state laws, regulations, orders, guidelines, policies and procedures.
2. **Time and Manner of Determination:** Eligibility determinations shall be made on forms provided by the Department for that purpose and shall be made and remade at such times as are prescribed by the Department.
3. **Documentation:** In addition to the determination forms required by the Department, the Contractor shall maintain a data file on each recipient of services hereunder, which file shall include all information necessary to support an eligibility determination and such other information as the Department requests. The Contractor shall furnish the Department with all forms and documentation regarding eligibility determinations that the Department may request or require.
4. **Fair Hearings:** The Contractor understands that all applicants for services hereunder, as well as individuals declared ineligible have a right to a fair hearing regarding that determination. The Contractor hereby covenants and agrees that all applicants for services shall be permitted to fill out an application form and that each applicant or re-applicant shall be informed of his/her right to a fair hearing in accordance with Department regulations.
5. **Gratuities or Kickbacks:** The Contractor agrees that it is a breach of this Contract to accept or make a payment, gratuity or offer of employment on behalf of the Contractor, any Sub-Contractor or the State in order to influence the performance of the Scope of Work detailed in Exhibit A of this Contract. The State may terminate this Contract and any sub-contract or sub-agreement if it is determined that payments, gratuities or offers of employment of any kind were offered or received by any officials, officers, employees or agents of the Contractor or Sub-Contractor.
6. **Retroactive Payments:** Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in the Contract or in any other document, contract or understanding, it is expressly understood and agreed by the parties hereto, that no payments will be made hereunder to reimburse the Contractor for costs incurred for any purpose or for any services provided to any individual prior to the Effective Date of the Contract and no payments shall be made for expenses incurred by the Contractor for any services provided prior to the date on which the individual applies for services or (except as otherwise provided by the federal regulations) prior to a determination that the individual is eligible for such services.
7. **Conditions of Purchase:** Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in the Contract, nothing herein contained shall be deemed to obligate or require the Department to purchase services hereunder at a rate which reimburses the Contractor in excess of the Contractors costs, at a rate which exceeds the amounts reasonable and necessary to assure the quality of such service, or at a rate which exceeds the rate charged by the Contractor to ineligible individuals or other third party funders for such service. If at any time during the term of this Contract or after receipt of the Final Expenditure Report hereunder, the Department shall determine that the Contractor has used payments hereunder to reimburse items of expense other than such costs, or has received payment in excess of such costs or in excess of such rates charged by the Contractor to ineligible individuals or other third party funders, the Department may elect to:
 - 7.1. Renegotiate the rates for payment hereunder, in which event new rates shall be established;
 - 7.2. Deduct from any future payment to the Contractor the amount of any prior reimbursement in excess of costs;



- 7.3. Demand repayment of the excess payment by the Contractor in which event failure to make such repayment shall constitute an Event of Default hereunder. When the Contractor is permitted to determine the eligibility of individuals for services, the Contractor agrees to reimburse the Department for all funds paid by the Department to the Contractor for services provided to any individual who is found by the Department to be ineligible for such services at any time during the period of retention of records established herein.

RECORDS: MAINTENANCE, RETENTION, AUDIT, DISCLOSURE AND CONFIDENTIALITY:

8. **Maintenance of Records:** In addition to the eligibility records specified above, the Contractor covenants and agrees to maintain the following records during the Contract Period:
- 8.1. Fiscal Records: books, records, documents and other data evidencing and reflecting all costs and other expenses incurred by the Contractor in the performance of the Contract, and all income received or collected by the Contractor during the Contract Period, said records to be maintained in accordance with accounting procedures and practices which sufficiently and properly reflect all such costs and expenses, and which are acceptable to the Department, and to include, without limitation, all ledgers, books, records, and original evidence of costs such as purchase requisitions and orders, vouchers, requisitions for materials, inventories, valuations of in-kind contributions, labor time cards, payrolls, and other records requested or required by the Department.
- 8.2. Statistical Records: Statistical, enrollment, attendance or visit records for each recipient of services during the Contract Period, which records shall include all records of application and eligibility (including all forms required to determine eligibility for each such recipient), records regarding the provision of services and all invoices submitted to the Department to obtain payment for such services.
- 8.3. Medical Records: Where appropriate and as prescribed by the Department regulations, the Contractor shall retain medical records on each patient/recipient of services.
9. **Audit:** Contractor shall submit an annual audit to the Department within 60 days after the close of the agency fiscal year. It is recommended that the report be prepared in accordance with the provision of Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non Profit Organizations" and the provisions of Standards for Audit of Governmental Organizations, Programs, Activities and Functions, issued by the US General Accounting Office (GAO standards) as they pertain to financial compliance audits.
- 9.1. Audit and Review: During the term of this Contract and the period for retention hereunder, the Department, the United States Department of Health and Human Services, and any of their designated representatives shall have access to all reports and records maintained pursuant to the Contract for purposes of audit, examination, excerpts and transcripts.
- 9.2. Audit Liabilities: In addition to and not in any way in limitation of obligations of the Contract, it is understood and agreed by the Contractor that the Contractor shall be held liable for any state or federal audit exceptions and shall return to the Department, all payments made under the Contract to which exception has been taken or which have been disallowed because of such an exception.
10. **Confidentiality of Records:** All information, reports, and records maintained hereunder or collected in connection with the performance of the services and the Contract shall be confidential and shall not be disclosed by the Contractor, provided however, that pursuant to state laws and the regulations of the Department regarding the use and disclosure of such information, disclosure may be made to public officials requiring such information in connection with their official duties and for purposes directly connected to the administration of the services and the Contract; and provided further, that the use or disclosure by any party of any information concerning a recipient for any purpose not directly connected with the administration of the Department or the Contractor's responsibilities with respect to purchased services hereunder is prohibited except on written consent of the recipient, his attorney or guardian.



Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein the covenants and conditions contained in the Paragraph shall survive the termination of the Contract for any reason whatsoever.

11. **Reports:** Fiscal and Statistical: The Contractor agrees to submit the following reports at the following times if requested by the Department.
 - 11.1. Interim Financial Reports: Written interim financial reports containing a detailed description of all costs and non-allowable expenses incurred by the Contractor to the date of the report and containing such other information as shall be deemed satisfactory by the Department to justify the rate of payment hereunder. Such Financial Reports shall be submitted on the form designated by the Department or deemed satisfactory by the Department.
 - 11.2. Final Report: A final report shall be submitted within thirty (30) days after the end of the term of this Contract. The Final Report shall be in a form satisfactory to the Department and shall contain a summary statement of progress toward goals and objectives stated in the Proposal and other information required by the Department.
12. **Completion of Services:** Disallowance of Costs: Upon the purchase by the Department of the maximum number of units provided for in the Contract and upon payment of the price limitation hereunder, the Contract and all the obligations of the parties hereunder (except such obligations as, by the terms of the Contract are to be performed after the end of the term of this Contract and/or survive the termination of the Contract) shall terminate, provided however, that if, upon review of the Final Expenditure Report the Department shall disallow any expenses claimed by the Contractor as costs hereunder the Department shall retain the right, at its discretion, to deduct the amount of such expenses as are disallowed or to recover such sums from the Contractor.
13. **Credits:** All documents, notices, press releases, research reports and other materials prepared during or resulting from the performance of the services of the Contract shall include the following statement:
 - 13.1. The preparation of this (report, document etc.) was financed under a Contract with the State of New Hampshire, Department of Health and Human Services, with funds provided in part by the State of New Hampshire and/or such other funding sources as were available or required, e.g., the United States Department of Health and Human Services.
14. **Prior Approval and Copyright Ownership:** All materials (written, video, audio) produced or purchased under the contract shall have prior approval from DHHS before printing, production, distribution or use. The DHHS will retain copyright ownership for any and all original materials produced, including, but not limited to, brochures, resource directories, protocols or guidelines, posters, or reports. Contractor shall not reproduce any materials produced under the contract without prior written approval from DHHS.
15. **Operation of Facilities: Compliance with Laws and Regulations:** In the operation of any facilities for providing services, the Contractor shall comply with all laws, orders and regulations of federal, state, county and municipal authorities and with any direction of any Public Officer or officers pursuant to laws which shall impose an order or duty upon the contractor with respect to the operation of the facility or the provision of the services at such facility. If any governmental license or permit shall be required for the operation of the said facility or the performance of the said services, the Contractor will procure said license or permit, and will at all times comply with the terms and conditions of each such license or permit. In connection with the foregoing requirements, the Contractor hereby covenants and agrees that, during the term of this Contract the facilities shall comply with all rules, orders, regulations, and requirements of the State Office of the Fire Marshal and the local fire protection agency, and shall be in conformance with local building and zoning codes, by-laws and regulations.
16. **Equal Employment Opportunity Plan (EEOP):** The Contractor will provide an Equal Employment Opportunity Plan (EEOP) to the Office for Civil Rights, Office of Justice Programs (OCR), if it has received a single award of \$500,000 or more. If the recipient receives \$25,000 or more and has 50 or



more employees, it will maintain a current EEOP on file and submit an EEOP Certification Form to the OCR, certifying that its EEOP is on file. For recipients receiving less than \$25,000, or public grantees with fewer than 50 employees, regardless of the amount of the award, the recipient will provide an EEOP Certification Form to the OCR certifying it is not required to submit or maintain an EEOP. Non-profit organizations, Indian Tribes, and medical and educational institutions are exempt from the EEOP requirement, but are required to submit a certification form to the OCR to claim the exemption. EEOP Certification Forms are available at: <http://www.ojp.usdoj/about/ocr/pdfs/cert.pdf>.

17. **Limited English Proficiency (LEP):** As clarified by Executive Order 13166, Improving Access to Services for persons with Limited English Proficiency, and resulting agency guidance, national origin discrimination includes discrimination on the basis of limited English proficiency (LEP). To ensure compliance with the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 and Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Contractors must take reasonable steps to ensure that LEP persons have meaningful access to its programs.
18. **Pilot Program for Enhancement of Contractor Employee Whistleblower Protections:** The following shall apply to all contracts that exceed the Simplified Acquisition Threshold as defined in 48 CFR 2.101 (currently, \$150,000)

CONTRACTOR EMPLOYEE WHISTLEBLOWER RIGHTS AND REQUIREMENT TO INFORM EMPLOYEES OF
WHISTLEBLOWER RIGHTS (SEP 2013)

(a) This contract and employees working on this contract will be subject to the whistleblower rights and remedies in the pilot program on Contractor employee whistleblower protections established at 41 U.S.C. 4712 by section 828 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Pub. L. 112-239) and FAR 3.908.

(b) The Contractor shall inform its employees in writing, in the predominant language of the workforce, of employee whistleblower rights and protections under 41 U.S.C. 4712, as described in section 3.908 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation.

(c) The Contractor shall insert the substance of this clause, including this paragraph (c), in all subcontracts over the simplified acquisition threshold.

19. **Subcontractors:** DHHS recognizes that the Contractor may choose to use subcontractors with greater expertise to perform certain health care services or functions for efficiency or convenience, but the Contractor shall retain the responsibility and accountability for the function(s). Prior to subcontracting, the Contractor shall evaluate the subcontractor's ability to perform the delegated function(s). This is accomplished through a written agreement that specifies activities and reporting responsibilities of the subcontractor and provides for revoking the delegation or imposing sanctions if the subcontractor's performance is not adequate. Subcontractors are subject to the same contractual conditions as the Contractor and the Contractor is responsible to ensure subcontractor compliance with those conditions.
- When the Contractor delegates a function to a subcontractor, the Contractor shall do the following:
- 19.1. Evaluate the prospective subcontractor's ability to perform the activities, before delegating the function
 - 19.2. Have a written agreement with the subcontractor that specifies activities and reporting responsibilities and how sanctions/revocation will be managed if the subcontractor's performance is not adequate
 - 19.3. Monitor the subcontractor's performance on an ongoing basis



- 19.4. Provide to DHHS an annual schedule identifying all subcontractors, delegated functions and responsibilities, and when the subcontractor's performance will be reviewed
- 19.5. DHHS shall, at its discretion, review and approve all subcontracts.

If the Contractor identifies deficiencies or areas for improvement are identified, the Contractor shall take corrective action.

DEFINITIONS

As used in the Contract, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

COSTS: Shall mean those direct and indirect items of expense determined by the Department to be allowable and reimbursable in accordance with cost and accounting principles established in accordance with state and federal laws, regulations, rules and orders.

DEPARTMENT: NH Department of Health and Human Services.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES: Shall mean that section of the Contractor Manual which is entitled "Financial Management Guidelines" and which contains the regulations governing the financial activities of contractor agencies which have contracted with the State of NH to receive funds.

PROPOSAL: If applicable, shall mean the document submitted by the Contractor on a form or forms required by the Department and containing a description of the Services to be provided to eligible individuals by the Contractor in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Contract and setting forth the total cost and sources of revenue for each service to be provided under the Contract.

UNIT: For each service that the Contractor is to provide to eligible individuals hereunder, shall mean that period of time or that specified activity determined by the Department and specified in Exhibit B of the Contract.

FEDERAL/STATE LAW: Wherever federal or state laws, regulations, rules, orders, and policies, etc. are referred to in the Contract, the said reference shall be deemed to mean all such laws, regulations, etc. as they may be amended or revised from the time to time.

CONTRACTOR MANUAL: Shall mean that document prepared by the NH Department of Administrative Services containing a compilation of all regulations promulgated pursuant to the New Hampshire Administrative Procedures Act. NH RSA Ch 541-A, for the purpose of implementing State of NH and federal regulations promulgated thereunder.

SUPPLANTING OTHER FEDERAL FUNDS: The Contractor guarantees that funds provided under this Contract will not supplant any existing federal funds available for these services.



REVISIONS TO GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. Subparagraph 4 of the General Provisions of this contract, Conditional Nature of Agreement, is replaced as follows:
 4. **CONDITIONAL NATURE OF AGREEMENT.**
Notwithstanding any provision of this Agreement to the contrary, all obligations of the State hereunder, including without limitation, the continuance of payments, in whole or in part, under this Agreement are contingent upon continued appropriation or availability of funds, including any subsequent changes to the appropriation or availability of funds affected by any state or federal legislative or executive action that reduces, eliminates, or otherwise modifies the appropriation or availability of funding for this Agreement and the Scope of Services provided in Exhibit A, Scope of Services, in whole or in part. In no event shall the State be liable for any payments hereunder in excess of appropriated or available funds. In the event of a reduction, termination or modification of appropriated or available funds, the State shall have the right to withhold payment until such funds become available, if ever. The State shall have the right to reduce, terminate or modify services under this Agreement immediately upon giving the Contractor notice of such reduction, termination or modification. The State shall not be required to transfer funds from any other source or account into the Account(s) identified in block 1.6 of the General Provisions, Account Number, or any other account, in the event funds are reduced or unavailable.
2. Subparagraph 10 of the General Provisions of this contract, Termination, is amended by adding the following language:
 - 10.1 The State may terminate the Agreement at any time for any reason, at the sole discretion of the State, 30 days after giving the Contractor written notice that the State is exercising its option to terminate the Agreement.
 - 10.2 In the event of early termination, the Contractor shall, within 15 days of notice of early termination, develop and submit to the State a Transition Plan for services under the Agreement, including but not limited to, identifying the present and future needs of clients receiving services under the Agreement and establishes a process to meet those needs.
 - 10.3 The Contractor shall fully cooperate with the State and shall promptly provide detailed information to support the Transition Plan including, but not limited to, any information or data requested by the State related to the termination of the Agreement and Transition Plan and shall provide ongoing communication and revisions of the Transition Plan to the State as requested.
 - 10.4 In the event that services under the Agreement, including but not limited to clients receiving services under the Agreement are transitioned to having services delivered by another entity including contracted providers or the State, the Contractor shall provide a process for uninterrupted delivery of services in the Transition Plan.
 - 10.5 The Contractor shall establish a method of notifying clients and other affected individuals about the transition. The Contractor shall include the proposed communications in its Transition Plan submitted to the State as described above.



CERTIFICATION REGARDING DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE REQUIREMENTS

The Contractor identified in Section 1.3 of the General Provisions agrees to comply with the provisions of Sections 5151-5160 of the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 (Pub. L. 100-690, Title V, Subtitle D; 41 U.S.C. 701 et seq.), and further agrees to have the Contractor's representative, as identified in Sections 1.11 and 1.12 of the General Provisions execute the following Certification:

ALTERNATIVE I - FOR GRANTEES OTHER THAN INDIVIDUALS

**US DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES - CONTRACTORS
US DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION - CONTRACTORS
US DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE - CONTRACTORS**

This certification is required by the regulations implementing Sections 5151-5160 of the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988 (Pub. L. 100-690, Title V, Subtitle D; 41 U.S.C. 701 et seq.). The January 31, 1989 regulations were amended and published as Part II of the May 25, 1990 Federal Register (pages 21681-21691), and require certification by grantees (and by inference, sub-grantees and sub-contractors), prior to award, that they will maintain a drug-free workplace. Section 3017.630(c) of the regulation provides that a grantee (and by inference, sub-grantees and sub-contractors) that is a State may elect to make one certification to the Department in each federal fiscal year in lieu of certificates for each grant during the federal fiscal year covered by the certification. The certificate set out below is a material representation of fact upon which reliance is placed when the agency awards the grant. False certification or violation of the certification shall be grounds for suspension of payments, suspension or termination of grants, or government wide suspension or debarment. Contractors using this form should send it to:

Commissioner
NH Department of Health and Human Services
129 Pleasant Street,
Concord, NH 03301-6505

1. The grantee certifies that it will or will continue to provide a drug-free workplace by:
 - 1.1. Publishing a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the grantee's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violation of such prohibition;
 - 1.2. Establishing an ongoing drug-free awareness program to inform employees about
 - 1.2.1. The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace;
 - 1.2.2. The grantee's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace;
 - 1.2.3. Any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs; and
 - 1.2.4. The penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations occurring in the workplace;
 - 1.3. Making it a requirement that each employee to be engaged in the performance of the grant be given a copy of the statement required by paragraph (a);
 - 1.4. Notifying the employee in the statement required by paragraph (a) that, as a condition of employment under the grant, the employee will
 - 1.4.1. Abide by the terms of the statement; and
 - 1.4.2. Notify the employer in writing of his or her conviction for a violation of a criminal drug statute occurring in the workplace no later than five calendar days after such conviction;
 - 1.5. Notifying the agency in writing, within ten calendar days after receiving notice under subparagraph 1.4.2 from an employee or otherwise receiving actual notice of such conviction. Employers of convicted employees must provide notice, including position title, to every grant officer on whose grant activity the convicted employee was working, unless the Federal agency

Appendix B
New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services
Exhibit D



- has designated a central point for the receipt of such notices. Notice shall include the identification number(s) of each affected grant;
- 1.6. Taking one of the following actions, within 30 calendar days of receiving notice under subparagraph 1.4.2, with respect to any employee who is so convicted
 - 1.6.1. Taking appropriate personnel action against such an employee, up to and including termination, consistent with the requirements of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; or
 - 1.6.2. Requiring such employee to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such purposes by a Federal, State, or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency;
 - 1.7. Making a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug-free workplace through implementation of paragraphs 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4, 1.5, and 1.6.
2. The grantee may insert in the space provided below the site(s) for the performance of work done in connection with the specific grant.

Place of Performance (street address, city, county, state, zip code) (list each location)

Check ☐ if there are workplaces on file that are not identified here.

Contractor Name:

Date

Name:
Title:



CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING

The Contractor identified in Section 1.3 of the General Provisions agrees to comply with the provisions of Section 319 of Public Law 101-121, Government wide Guidance for New Restrictions on Lobbying, and 31 U.S.C. 1352, and further agrees to have the Contractor's representative, as identified in Sections 1.11 and 1.12 of the General Provisions execute the following Certification:

US DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES - CONTRACTORS
US DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION - CONTRACTORS
US DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE - CONTRACTORS

Programs (indicate applicable program covered):

- *Temporary Assistance to Needy Families under Title IV-A
- *Child Support Enforcement Program under Title IV-D
- *Social Services Block Grant Program under Title XX
- *Medicaid Program under Title XIX
- *Community Services Block Grant under Title VI
- *Child Care Development Block Grant under Title IV

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

1. No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement (and by specific mention sub-grantee or sub-contractor).
2. If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement (and by specific mention sub-grantee or sub-contractor), the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form LLL, (Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying, in accordance with its instructions, attached and identified as Standard Exhibit E-I.)
3. The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award document for sub-awards at all tiers (including subcontracts, sub-grants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all sub-recipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by Section 1352, Title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

Contractor Name: _____

Date

Name:
Title:



**CERTIFICATION REGARDING DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION
AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS**

The Contractor identified in Section 1.3 of the General Provisions agrees to comply with the provisions of Executive Office of the President, Executive Order 12549 and 45 CFR Part 76 regarding Debarment, Suspension, and Other Responsibility Matters, and further agrees to have the Contractor's representative, as identified in Sections 1.11 and 1.12 of the General Provisions execute the following Certification:

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CERTIFICATION

1. By signing and submitting this proposal (contract), the prospective primary participant is providing the certification set out below.
2. The inability of a person to provide the certification required below will not necessarily result in denial of participation in this covered transaction. If necessary, the prospective participant shall submit an explanation of why it cannot provide the certification. The certification or explanation will be considered in connection with the NH Department of Health and Human Services' (DHHS) determination whether to enter into this transaction. However, failure of the prospective primary participant to furnish a certification or an explanation shall disqualify such person from participation in this transaction.
3. The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when DHHS determined to enter into this transaction. If it is later determined that the prospective primary participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, DHHS may terminate this transaction for cause or default.
4. The prospective primary participant shall provide immediate written notice to the DHHS agency to whom this proposal (contract) is submitted if at any time the prospective primary participant learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.
5. The terms "covered transaction," "debarred," "suspended," "ineligible," "lower tier covered transaction," "participant," "person," "primary covered transaction," "principal," "proposal," and "voluntarily excluded," as used in this clause, have the meanings set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of the rules implementing Executive Order 12549: 45 CFR Part 76. See the attached definitions.
6. The prospective primary participant agrees by submitting this proposal (contract) that, should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by DHHS.
7. The prospective primary participant further agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include the clause titled "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion - Lower Tier Covered Transactions," provided by DHHS, without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions.
8. A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that it is not debarred, suspended, ineligible, or involuntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant may decide the method and frequency by which it determines the eligibility of its principals. Each participant may, but is not required to, check the Nonprocurement List (of excluded parties).
9. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and



information of a participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

10. Except for transactions authorized under paragraph 6 of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal government, DHHS may terminate this transaction for cause or default.

PRIMARY COVERED TRANSACTIONS

11. The prospective primary participant certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it and its principals:
- 11.1. are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any Federal department or agency;
 - 11.2. have not within a three-year period preceding this proposal (contract) been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State or local) transaction or a contract under a public transaction; violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;
 - 11.3. are not presently indicted for otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (I)(b) of this certification; and
 - 11.4. have not within a three-year period preceding this application/proposal had one or more public transactions (Federal, State or local) terminated for cause or default.
12. Where the prospective primary participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this proposal (contract).

LOWER TIER COVERED TRANSACTIONS

13. By signing and submitting this lower tier proposal (contract), the prospective lower tier participant, as defined in 45 CFR Part 76, certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief that it and its principals:
- 13.1. are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any federal department or agency.
 - 13.2. where the prospective lower tier participant is unable to certify to any of the above, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this proposal (contract).
14. The prospective lower tier participant further agrees by submitting this proposal (contract) that it will include this clause entitled "Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility, and Voluntary Exclusion - Lower Tier Covered Transactions," without modification in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions.

Contractor Name: _____

Date

Name:
Title:



**CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS PERTAINING TO
FEDERAL NONDISCRIMINATION, EQUAL TREATMENT OF FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS AND
WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTIONS**

The Contractor identified in Section 1.3 of the General Provisions agrees by signature of the Contractor's representative as identified in Sections 1.11 and 1.12 of the General Provisions, to execute the following certification:

Contractor will comply, and will require any subgrantees or subcontractors to comply, with any applicable federal nondiscrimination requirements, which may include:

- the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. Section 3789d) which prohibits recipients of federal funding under this statute from discriminating, either in employment practices or in the delivery of services or benefits, on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, and sex. The Act requires certain recipients to produce an Equal Employment Opportunity Plan;
- the Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Act of 2002 (42 U.S.C. Section 5672(b)) which adopts by reference, the civil rights obligations of the Safe Streets Act. Recipients of federal funding under this statute are prohibited from discriminating, either in employment practices or in the delivery of services or benefits, on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, and sex. The Act includes Equal Employment Opportunity Plan requirements;
- the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. Section 2000d, which prohibits recipients of federal financial assistance from discriminating on the basis of race, color, or national origin in any program or activity);
- the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. Section 794), which prohibits recipients of Federal financial assistance from discriminating on the basis of disability, in regard to employment and the delivery of services or benefits, in any program or activity;
- the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sections 12131-34), which prohibits discrimination and ensures equal opportunity for persons with disabilities in employment, State and local government services, public accommodations, commercial facilities, and transportation;
- the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. Sections 1681, 1683, 1685-86), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in federally assisted education programs;
- the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 (42 U.S.C. Sections 6106-07), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance. It does not include employment discrimination;
- 28 C.F.R. pt. 31 (U.S. Department of Justice Regulations – OJJDP Grant Programs); 28 C.F.R. pt. 42 (U.S. Department of Justice Regulations – Nondiscrimination; Equal Employment Opportunity; Policies and Procedures); Executive Order No. 13279 (equal protection of the laws for faith-based and community organizations); Executive Order No. 13559, which provide fundamental principles and policy-making criteria for partnerships with faith-based and neighborhood organizations;
- 28 C.F.R. pt. 38 (U.S. Department of Justice Regulations – Equal Treatment for Faith-Based Organizations); and Whistleblower protections 41 U.S.C. §4712 and The National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2013 (Pub. L. 112-239, enacted January 2, 2013) the Pilot Program for Enhancement of Contract Employee Whistleblower Protections, which protects employees against reprisal for certain whistle blowing activities in connection with federal grants and contracts.

The certificate set out below is a material representation of fact upon which reliance is placed when the agency awards the grant. False certification or violation of the certification shall be grounds for suspension of payments, suspension or termination of grants, or government wide suspension or debarment.

Exhibit G

Contractor Initials _____

Certification of Compliance with requirements pertaining to Federal Nondiscrimination, Equal Treatment of Faith-Based Organizations
and Whistleblower protections

Appendix B
New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services
Exhibit G



In the event a Federal or State court or Federal or State administrative agency makes a finding of discrimination after a due process hearing on the grounds of race, color, religion, national origin, or sex against a recipient of funds, the recipient will forward a copy of the finding to the Office for Civil Rights, to the applicable contracting agency or division within the Department of Health and Human Services, and to the Department of Health and Human Services Office of the Ombudsman.

The Contractor identified in Section 1.3 of the General Provisions agrees by signature of the Contractor's representative as identified in Sections 1.11 and 1.12 of the General Provisions, to execute the following certification:

1. By signing and submitting this proposal (contract) the Contractor agrees to comply with the provisions indicated above.

Contractor Name: _____

Date

Name:
Title:

Exhibit G

Contractor Initials _____

Certification of Compliance with requirements pertaining to Federal Nondiscrimination, Equal Treatment of Faith-Based Organizations
and Whistleblower protections



CERTIFICATION REGARDING ENVIRONMENTAL TOBACCO SMOKE

Public Law 103-227, Part C - Environmental Tobacco Smoke, also known as the Pro-Children Act of 1994 (Act), requires that smoking not be permitted in any portion of any indoor facility owned or leased or contracted for by an entity and used routinely or regularly for the provision of health, day care, education, or library services to children under the age of 18, if the services are funded by Federal programs either directly or through State or local governments, by Federal grant, contract, loan, or loan guarantee. The law does not apply to children's services provided in private residences, facilities funded solely by Medicare or Medicaid funds, and portions of facilities used for inpatient drug or alcohol treatment. Failure to comply with the provisions of the law may result in the imposition of a civil monetary penalty of up to \$1000 per day and/or the imposition of an administrative compliance order on the responsible entity.

The Contractor identified in Section 1.3 of the General Provisions agrees, by signature of the Contractor's representative as identified in Section 1.11 and 1.12 of the General Provisions, to execute the following certification:

1. By signing and submitting this contract, the Contractor agrees to make reasonable efforts to comply with all applicable provisions of Public Law 103-227, Part C, known as the Pro-Children Act of 1994.

Contractor Name:

Date

Name:
Title:



Exhibit I

HEALTH INSURANCE PORTABILITY ACT
BUSINESS ASSOCIATE AGREEMENT

The Contractor identified in Section 1.3 of the General Provisions of the Agreement agrees to comply with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, Public Law 104-191 and with the Standards for Privacy and Security of Individually Identifiable Health Information, 45 CFR Parts 160 and 164 applicable to business associates. As defined herein, "Business Associate" shall mean the Contractor and subcontractors and agents of the Contractor that receive, use or have access to protected health information under this Agreement and "Covered Entity" shall mean the State of New Hampshire, Department of Health and Human Services.

(1) Definitions.

- a. "Breach" shall have the same meaning as the term "Breach" in section 164.402 of Title 45, Code of Federal Regulations.
- b. "Business Associate" has the meaning given such term in section 160.103 of Title 45, Code of Federal Regulations.
- c. "Covered Entity" has the meaning given such term in section 160.103 of Title 45, Code of Federal Regulations.
- d. "Designated Record Set" shall have the same meaning as the term "designated record set" in 45 CFR Section 164.501.
- e. "Data Aggregation" shall have the same meaning as the term "data aggregation" in 45 CFR Section 164.501.
- f. "Health Care Operations" shall have the same meaning as the term "health care operations" in 45 CFR Section 164.501.
- g. "HITECH Act" means the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act, Title XIII, Subtitle D, Part 1 & 2 of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.
- h. "HIPAA" means the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, Public Law 104-191 and the Standards for Privacy and Security of Individually Identifiable Health Information, 45 CFR Parts 160, 162 and 164 and amendments thereto.
- i. "Individual" shall have the same meaning as the term "individual" in 45 CFR Section 160.103 and shall include a person who qualifies as a personal representative in accordance with 45 CFR Section 164.501(g).
- j. "Privacy Rule" shall mean the Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information at 45 CFR Parts 160 and 164, promulgated under HIPAA by the United States Department of Health and Human Services.
- k. "Protected Health Information" shall have the same meaning as the term "protected health information" in 45 CFR Section 160.103, limited to the information created or received by Business Associate from or on behalf of Covered Entity.



Exhibit I

- I. "Required by Law" shall have the same meaning as the term "required by law" in 45 CFR Section 164.103.
- m. "Secretary" shall mean the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services or his/her designee.
- n. "Security Rule" shall mean the Security Standards for the Protection of Electronic Protected Health Information at 45 CFR Part 164, Subpart C, and amendments thereto.
- o. "Unsecured Protected Health Information" means protected health information that is not secured by a technology standard that renders protected health information unusable, unreadable, or indecipherable to unauthorized individuals and is developed or endorsed by a standards developing organization that is accredited by the American National Standards Institute.
- p. Other Definitions - All terms not otherwise defined herein shall have the meaning established under 45 C.F.R. Parts 160, 162 and 164, as amended from time to time, and the HITECH Act.

(2) **Business Associate Use and Disclosure of Protected Health Information.**

- a. Business Associate shall not use, disclose, maintain or transmit Protected Health Information (PHI) except as reasonably necessary to provide the services outlined under Exhibit A of the Agreement. Further, Business Associate, including but not limited to all its directors, officers, employees and agents, shall not use, disclose, maintain or transmit PHI in any manner that would constitute a violation of the Privacy and Security Rule.
- b. Business Associate may use or disclose PHI:
 - I. For the proper management and administration of the Business Associate;
 - II. As required by law, pursuant to the terms set forth in paragraph d. below; or
 - III. For data aggregation purposes for the health care operations of Covered Entity.
- c. To the extent Business Associate is permitted under the Agreement to disclose PHI to a third party, Business Associate must obtain, prior to making any such disclosure, (i) reasonable assurances from the third party that such PHI will be held confidentially and used or further disclosed only as required by law or for the purpose for which it was disclosed to the third party; and (ii) an agreement from such third party to notify Business Associate, in accordance with the HIPAA Privacy, Security, and Breach Notification Rules of any breaches of the confidentiality of the PHI, to the extent it has obtained knowledge of such breach.
- d. The Business Associate shall not, unless such disclosure is reasonably necessary to provide services under Exhibit A of the Agreement, disclose any PHI in response to a request for disclosure on the basis that it is required by law, without first notifying Covered Entity so that Covered Entity has an opportunity to object to the disclosure and to seek appropriate relief. If Covered Entity objects to such disclosure, the Business



Exhibit I

Associate shall refrain from disclosing the PHI until Covered Entity has exhausted all remedies.

- e. If the Covered Entity notifies the Business Associate that Covered Entity has agreed to be bound by additional restrictions over and above those uses or disclosures or security safeguards of PHI pursuant to the Privacy and Security Rule, the Business Associate shall be bound by such additional restrictions and shall not disclose PHI in violation of such additional restrictions and shall abide by any additional security safeguards.

(3) Obligations and Activities of Business Associate.

- a. The Business Associate shall notify the Covered Entity's Privacy Officer immediately after the Business Associate becomes aware of any use or disclosure of protected health information not provided for by the Agreement including breaches of unsecured protected health information and/or any security incident that may have an impact on the protected health information of the Covered Entity.
- b. The Business Associate shall immediately perform a risk assessment when it becomes aware of any of the above situations. The risk assessment shall include, but not be limited to:
- o The nature and extent of the protected health information involved, including the types of identifiers and the likelihood of re-identification;
 - o The unauthorized person used the protected health information or to whom the disclosure was made;
 - o Whether the protected health information was actually acquired or viewed
 - o The extent to which the risk to the protected health information has been mitigated.

The Business Associate shall complete the risk assessment within 48 hours of the breach and immediately report the findings of the risk assessment in writing to the Covered Entity.

- c. The Business Associate shall comply with all sections of the Privacy, Security, and Breach Notification Rule.
- d. Business Associate shall make available all of its internal policies and procedures, books and records relating to the use and disclosure of PHI received from, or created or received by the Business Associate on behalf of Covered Entity to the Secretary for purposes of determining Covered Entity's compliance with HIPAA and the Privacy and Security Rule.
- e. Business Associate shall require all of its business associates that receive, use or have access to PHI under the Agreement, to agree in writing to adhere to the same restrictions and conditions on the use and disclosure of PHI contained herein, including the duty to return or destroy the PHI as provided under Section 3 (I). The Covered Entity shall be considered a direct third party beneficiary of the Contractor's business associate agreements with Contractor's intended business associates, who will be receiving PHI



Exhibit I

- pursuant to this Agreement, with rights of enforcement and indemnification from such business associates who shall be governed by standard Paragraph #13 of the standard contract provisions (P-37) of this Agreement for the purpose of use and disclosure of protected health information.
- f. Within five (5) business days of receipt of a written request from Covered Entity, Business Associate shall make available during normal business hours at its offices all records, books, agreements, policies and procedures relating to the use and disclosure of PHI to the Covered Entity, for purposes of enabling Covered Entity to determine Business Associate's compliance with the terms of the Agreement.
 - g. Within ten (10) business days of receiving a written request from Covered Entity, Business Associate shall provide access to PHI in a Designated Record Set to the Covered Entity, or as directed by Covered Entity, to an individual in order to meet the requirements under 45 CFR Section 164.524.
 - h. Within ten (10) business days of receiving a written request from Covered Entity for an amendment of PHI or a record about an individual contained in a Designated Record Set, the Business Associate shall make such PHI available to Covered Entity for amendment and incorporate any such amendment to enable Covered Entity to fulfill its obligations under 45 CFR Section 164.526.
 - i. Business Associate shall document such disclosures of PHI and information related to such disclosures as would be required for Covered Entity to respond to a request by an individual for an accounting of disclosures of PHI in accordance with 45 CFR Section 164.528.
 - j. Within ten (10) business days of receiving a written request from Covered Entity for a request for an accounting of disclosures of PHI, Business Associate shall make available to Covered Entity such information as Covered Entity may require to fulfill its obligations to provide an accounting of disclosures with respect to PHI in accordance with 45 CFR Section 164.528.
 - k. In the event any individual requests access to, amendment of, or accounting of PHI directly from the Business Associate, the Business Associate shall within two (2) business days forward such request to Covered Entity. Covered Entity shall have the responsibility of responding to forwarded requests. However, if forwarding the individual's request to Covered Entity would cause Covered Entity or the Business Associate to violate HIPAA and the Privacy and Security Rule, the Business Associate shall instead respond to the individual's request as required by such law and notify Covered Entity of such response as soon as practicable.
 - l. Within ten (10) business days of termination of the Agreement, for any reason, the Business Associate shall return or destroy, as specified by Covered Entity, all PHI received from, or created or received by the Business Associate in connection with the Agreement, and shall not retain any copies or back-up tapes of such PHI. If return or destruction is not feasible, or the disposition of the PHI has been otherwise agreed to in the Agreement, Business Associate shall continue to extend the protections of the Agreement, to such PHI and limit further uses and disclosures of such PHI to those purposes that make the return or destruction infeasible, for so long as Business



Exhibit I

Associate maintains such PHI. If Covered Entity, in its sole discretion, requires that the Business Associate destroy any or all PHI, the Business Associate shall certify to Covered Entity that the PHI has been destroyed.

(4) Obligations of Covered Entity

- a. Covered Entity shall notify Business Associate of any changes or limitation(s) in its Notice of Privacy Practices provided to individuals in accordance with 45 CFR Section 164.520, to the extent that such change or limitation may affect Business Associate's use or disclosure of PHI.
- b. Covered Entity shall promptly notify Business Associate of any changes in, or revocation of permission provided to Covered Entity by individuals whose PHI may be used or disclosed by Business Associate under this Agreement, pursuant to 45 CFR Section 164.506 or 45 CFR Section 164.508.
- c. Covered entity shall promptly notify Business Associate of any restrictions on the use or disclosure of PHI that Covered Entity has agreed to in accordance with 45 CFR 164.522, to the extent that such restriction may affect Business Associate's use or disclosure of PHI.

(5) Termination for Cause

In addition to Paragraph 10 of the standard terms and conditions (P-37) of this Agreement the Covered Entity may immediately terminate the Agreement upon Covered Entity's knowledge of a breach by Business Associate of the Business Associate Agreement set forth herein as Exhibit I. The Covered Entity may either immediately terminate the Agreement or provide an opportunity for Business Associate to cure the alleged breach within a timeframe specified by Covered Entity. If Covered Entity determines that neither termination nor cure is feasible, Covered Entity shall report the violation to the Secretary.

(6) Miscellaneous

- a. Definitions and Regulatory References. All terms used, but not otherwise defined herein, shall have the same meaning as those terms in the Privacy and Security Rule, amended from time to time. A reference in the Agreement, as amended to include this Exhibit I, to a Section in the Privacy and Security Rule means the Section as in effect or as amended.
- b. Amendment. Covered Entity and Business Associate agree to take such action as is necessary to amend the Agreement, from time to time as is necessary for Covered Entity to comply with the changes in the requirements of HIPAA, the Privacy and Security Rule, and applicable federal and state law.
- c. Data Ownership. The Business Associate acknowledges that it has no ownership rights with respect to the PHI provided by or created on behalf of Covered Entity.
- d. Interpretation. The parties agree that any ambiguity in the Agreement shall be resolved to permit Covered Entity to comply with HIPAA, the Privacy and Security Rule.



Exhibit I

- e. Segregation. If any term or condition of this Exhibit I or the application thereof to any person(s) or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other terms or conditions which can be given effect without the invalid term or condition; to this end the terms and conditions of this Exhibit I are declared severable.
- f. Survival. Provisions in this Exhibit I regarding the use and disclosure of PHI, return or destruction of PHI, extensions of the protections of the Agreement in section (3) I, the defense and indemnification provisions of section (3) e and Paragraph 13 of the standard terms and conditions (P-37), shall survive the termination of the Agreement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have duly executed this Exhibit I.

The State

Name of the Contractor

Signature of Authorized Representative

Signature of Authorized Representative

Name of Authorized Representative

Name of Authorized Representative

Title of Authorized Representative

Title of Authorized Representative

Date

Date



**CERTIFICATION REGARDING THE FEDERAL FUNDING ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY
ACT (FFATA) COMPLIANCE**

The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) requires prime awardees of individual Federal grants equal to or greater than \$25,000 and awarded on or after October 1, 2010, to report on data related to executive compensation and associated first-tier sub-grants of \$25,000 or more. If the initial award is below \$25,000 but subsequent grant modifications result in a total award equal to or over \$25,000, the award is subject to the FFATA reporting requirements, as of the date of the award.

In accordance with 2 CFR Part 170 (Reporting Subaward and Executive Compensation Information), the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) must report the following information for any subaward or contract award subject to the FFATA reporting requirements:

1. Name of entity
2. Amount of award
3. Funding agency
4. NAICS code for contracts / CFDA program number for grants
5. Program source
6. Award title descriptive of the purpose of the funding action
7. Location of the entity
8. Principle place of performance
9. Unique identifier of the entity (DUNS #)
10. Total compensation and names of the top five executives if:
 - 10.1. More than 80% of annual gross revenues are from the Federal government, and those revenues are greater than \$25M annually and
 - 10.2. Compensation information is not already available through reporting to the SEC.

Prime grant recipients must submit FFATA required data by the end of the month, plus 30 days, in which the award or award amendment is made.

The Contractor identified in Section 1.3 of the General Provisions agrees to comply with the provisions of The Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act, Public Law 109-282 and Public Law 110-252, and 2 CFR Part 170 (Reporting Subaward and Executive Compensation Information), and further agrees to have the Contractor's representative, as identified in Sections 1.11 and 1.12 of the General Provisions execute the following Certification:

The below named Contractor agrees to provide needed information as outlined above to the NH Department of Health and Human Services and to comply with all applicable provisions of the Federal Financial Accountability and Transparency Act.

Contractor Name: _____

Date

Name:
Title:

Appendix B
New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services
Exhibit J



FORM A

As the Contractor identified in Section 1.3 of the General Provisions, I certify that the responses to the below listed questions are true and accurate.

1. The DUNS number for your entity is: _____
2. In your business or organization's preceding completed fiscal year, did your business or organization receive (1) 80 percent or more of your annual gross revenue in U.S. federal contracts, subcontracts, loans, grants, sub-grants, and/or cooperative agreements; and (2) \$25,000,000 or more in annual gross revenues from U.S. federal contracts, subcontracts, loans, grants, subgrants, and/or cooperative agreements?

_____ NO _____ YES

If the answer to #2 above is NO, stop here

If the answer to #2 above is YES, please answer the following:

3. Does the public have access to information about the compensation of the executives in your business or organization through periodic reports filed under section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. 78m(a), 78o(d)) or section 6104 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986?

_____ NO _____ YES

If the answer to #3 above is YES, stop here

If the answer to #3 above is NO, please answer the following:

4. The names and compensation of the five most highly compensated officers in your business or organization are as follows:

Name: _____	Amount: _____
Name: _____	Amount: _____
Name: _____	Amount: _____
Name: _____	Amount: _____
Name: _____	Amount: _____

Appendix C

BUDGET FORM

New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services
COMPLETE ONE BUDGET FORM FOR EACH BUDGET PERIOD

Bidder Name: _____

Budget Request for: _____
(Name of RFP)

Budget Period: _____

Line Item	Direct Incremental	Indirect Fixed	Total	Allocation Method for Indirect/Fixed Cost
1. Total Salary/Wages	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
2. Employee Benefits	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
3. Consultants	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
4. Equipment:	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Rental	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Repair and Maintenance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Purchase/Depreciation	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
5. Supplies:	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Educational	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Lab	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Pharmacy	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Medical	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Office	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
6. Travel	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
7. Occupancy	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
8. Current Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Telephone	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Postage	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Subscriptions	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Audit and Legal	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Insurance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Board Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
9. Software	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
10. Marketing/Communications	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
11. Staff Education and Training	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
12. Subcontracts/Agreements	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
13. Other (<i>specific details mandatory</i>):	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
TOTAL	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	

Indirect As A Percent of Direct

#DIV/0!

APPENDIX D

Addendum to CLAS Section of RFP for Purpose of Documenting Title VI Compliance

All DHHS bidders are required to complete the following two (2) steps as part of their proposal:

- (1) Perform an individualized organizational assessment, using the four-factor analysis, to determine the extent of language assistance to provide for programs, services and/or activities; and;
- (2) Taking into account the outcome of the four-factor analysis, respond to the questions below.

Background:

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and its implementing regulations provide that no person shall be subjected to discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin under any program that receives Federal financial assistance. The courts have held that national origin discrimination includes discrimination on the basis of limited English proficiency. Any organization or individual that receives Federal financial assistance, through either a grant, contract, or subcontract is a covered entity under Title VI. Examples of covered entities include the NH Department of Health and Human Services and its contractors.

Covered entities are required to take reasonable steps to ensure **meaningful access** by persons with limited English proficiency (LEP) to their programs and activities. LEP persons are those with a limited ability to speak, read, write or understand English.

The **key** to ensuring meaningful access by LEP persons is effective communication. An agency or provider can ensure effective communication by developing and implementing a language assistance program that includes policies and procedures for identifying and assessing the language needs of its LEP clients/applicants, and that provides for an array of language assistance options, notice to LEP persons of the right to receive language assistance free of charge, training of staff, periodic monitoring of the program, and translation of certain written materials.

The Office for Civil Rights (OCR) is the federal agency responsible for enforcing Title VI. OCR recognizes that covered entities vary in size, the number of LEP clients needing assistance, and the nature of the services provided. Accordingly, covered entities have some flexibility in how they address the needs of their LEP clients. (In other words, it is understood that one size language assistance program does not fit all covered entities.)

The **starting point** for covered entities to determine the extent of their obligation to provide LEP services is to apply a four-factor analysis to their organization. It is important to understand that the flexibility afforded in addressing the needs of LEP clients **does not diminish** the obligation covered entities have to address those needs.

APPENDIX D

Examples of practices that may violate Title VI include:

- Limiting participation in a program or activity due to a person's limited English proficiency;
- Providing services to LEP persons that are more limited in scope or are lower in quality than those provided to other persons (such as when there is no qualified interpretation provided);
- Failing to inform LEP persons of the right to receive free interpreter services and/or requiring LEP persons to provide their own interpreter;
- Subjecting LEP persons to unreasonable delays in the delivery of services.

BIDDER STEP #1 – Individualized Assessment Using Four-Factor Analysis

The four-factor analysis helps an organization determine the right mix of services to provide to their LEP clients. The right mix of services is based upon an individualized assessment, involving the balancing of the following four factors.

- (1) The **number** or proportion of LEP persons served or likely to be encountered in the population that is eligible for the program;
- (2) The **frequency** with which LEP individuals come in contact with the program, activity or service;
- (3) The **importance** or impact of the contact upon the lives of the person(s) served by the program, activity or service;
- (4) The **resources** available to the organization to provide effective language assistance.

This addendum was created to facilitate bidders' application of the four-factor analysis to the services they provide. At this stage, bidders are not required to submit their four-factor analysis as part of their proposal. **However, successful bidders will be required to submit a detailed description of the language assistance services they will provide to LEP persons to ensure meaningful access to their programs and/or services, within 10 days of the date the contract is approved by Governor and Council.** For further guidance, please see the Bidder's Reference for Completing the Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) Section of the RFP, which is available in the Vendor/RFP Section of the DHHS website:

<http://www.dhhs.nh.gov/business/index.htm>

APPENDIX D

Important Items to Consider When Evaluating the Four Factors.

Factor #1 The number or proportion of LEP persons served or encountered in the population that is eligible for the program.

Considerations:

- The eligible population is specific to the program, activity or service. It includes LEP persons serviced by the program, as well as those directly affected by the program, activity or service.
- Organizations are required not only to examine data on LEP persons served by their program, but also those in the community who are **eligible** for the program (but who are not currently served or participating in the program due to existing language barriers).
- Relevant data sources may include information collected by program staff, as well as external data, such as the latest Census Reports.
- Recipients are required to apply this analysis to each language in the service area. When considering the number or proportion of LEP individuals in a service area, recipients should consider whether the minor children their programs serve have LEP parent(s) or guardian(s) with whom the recipient may need to interact. It is also important to consider language minority populations that are eligible for the programs or services, but are not currently served or participating in the program, due to existing language barriers.
- An effective means of determining the number of LEP persons served is to record the preferred languages of people who have day-to-day contact with the program.
- It is important to remember that the **focus** of the analysis is on the lack of English proficiency, not the ability to speak more than one language.

Factor #2: The frequency with which LEP individuals come in contact with the program, activity or service.

- The more frequently a recipient entity has contact with individuals in a particular language group, the more likely that language assistance in that language is needed. For example, the steps that are reasonable for a recipient that serves an LEP person on a one-time basis will be very different from those that are expected from a recipient that serves LEP persons daily.
- Even recipients that serve people from a particular language group infrequently or on an unpredictable basis should use this four-factor analysis to determine what to do if an LEP person seeks services from their program.
- The resulting plan may be as simple as being prepared to use a telephone interpreter service.
- The key is to have a plan in place.

APPENDIX D

Factor #3 The importance or impact of the contact upon the lives of the person(s) served by the program, activity or service.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The more important a recipient's activity, program or service, or the greater the possible consequence of the contact to the LEP persons, the more likely language services are needed.• When considering this factor, the recipient should determine both the importance, as well as the urgency of the service. For example, if the communication is both important and urgent (such as the need to communicate information about an emergency medical procedure), it is more likely that immediate language services are required. If the information to be communicated is important but not urgent (such as the need to communicate information about elective surgery, where delay will not have any adverse impact on the patient's health), it is likely that language services are required, but that such services can be delayed for a reasonable length of time.
Factor #4 The resources available to the organization to provide effective language assistance.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A recipient's level of resources and the costs of providing language assistance services is another factor to consider in the analysis.• Remember, however, that cost is merely one factor in the analysis. Level of resources and costs do not diminish the requirement to address the need, however they may be considered in determining how the need is addressed;• Resources and cost issues can often be reduced, for example, by sharing language assistance materials and services among recipients. Therefore, recipients should carefully explore the most cost-effective means of delivering quality language services prior to limiting services due to resource limitations.

APPENDIX D

BIDDER STEP #2 - Required Questions Relating to Language Assistance Measures

Taking into account the four-factor analysis, please answer the following questions in the six areas of the table below. (**Do not** attempt to answer the questions until you have completed the four-factor analysis.) The Department understands that your responses will depend on the outcome of the four-factor analysis. The requirement to provide language assistance does not vary, but the measures taken to provide the assistance will necessarily differ from organization to organization.

1. IDENTIFICATION OF LEP PERSONS SERVED OR LIKELY TO BE ENCOUNTERED IN YOUR PROGRAM		
a. Do you make an effort to identify LEP persons served in your program? (One way to identify LEP persons served in your program is to collect data on ethnicity, race, and/or preferred language.)	Yes	No
b. Do you make an effort to identify LEP persons likely to be encountered in the population eligible for your program or service? (One way to identify LEP persons likely to be encountered is by examining external data sources, such as Census data)	Yes	No
c. Does you make an effort to use data to identify new and emerging population or community needs?	Yes	No
2. NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF LANGUAGE ASSISTANCE		
Do you inform all applicants / clients of their right to receive language / communication assistance services at no cost? (Or, do you have procedures in place to notify LEP applicants / clients of their right to receive assistance, if needed?) <u>Example:</u> One way to notify clients about the availability of language assistance is through the use of an "I Speak" card.	Yes	No
3. STAFF TRAINING		
Do you provide training to personnel at all levels of your organization on federal civil rights laws compliance and the procedures for providing language assistance to LEP persons, if needed?	Yes	No
4. PROVISION OF LANGUAGE ASSISTANCE		
Do you provide language assistance to LEP persons, free of charge, in a timely manner? (Or, do you have procedures in place to provide language assistance to LEP persons, if needed)	Yes	No

APPENDIX D

In general, covered entities are required to provide two types of language assistance: (1) oral interpretation and (2) translation of written materials. Oral interpretation may be carried out by contracted in-person or remote interpreters, and/or bi-lingual staff. (Examples of written materials you may need to translate include vital documents such as consent forms and statements of rights.)		
5. ENSURING COMPETENCY OF INTERPRETERS USED IN PROGRAM AND THE ACCURACY OF TRANSLATED MATERIALS		
a. Do you make effort to assess the language fluency of all interpreters used in your program to determine their level of competence in their specific field of service? (Note: A way to fulfill this requirement is to use certified interpreters only.)	Yes	No
b. As a general rule, does your organization avoid the use of family members, friends, and other untested individual to provide interpretation services?	Yes	No
c. Does your organization have a policy and procedure in place to handle client requests to use a family member, friend, or other untested individual to provide interpretation services?	Yes	No
d. Do you make an effort to verify the accuracy of any translated materials used in your program (or use only professionally certified translators)? (Note: Depending on the outcome of the four-factor analysis, N/A (Not applicable) may be an acceptable response to this question.	Yes	No
6. MONITORING OF SERVICES PROVIDED		
Does you make an effort to periodically evaluate the effectiveness of any language assistance services provided, and make modifications, as needed?	Yes	No
If there is a designated staff member who carries out the evaluation function? If so, please provide the person's title: _____	Yes	No

By signing and submitting this attachment to RFP# _____, the Contractor affirms that it:

- 1.) Has completed the four-factor analysis as part of the process for creating its proposal, in response to the above referenced RFP.
- 2.) Understands that Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 requires the Contractor to take reasonable steps to ensure meaningful access to **all** LEP persons to all programs, services, and/or activities offered by my organization.

APPENDIX D

- 3.) Understands that, if selected, the Contractor will be required to submit a detailed description of the language assistance services it will provide to LEP persons to ensure meaningful access to programs and/or services, within 10 days of the date the contract is approved by Governor and Council.

Contractor/Vendor Signature

Contractor's Representative Name/Title

Contractor Name

Date

Appendix E

Program Staff List						
New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services						
COMPLETE ONE PROGRAM STAFF LIST FOR EACH STATE FISCAL YEAR						
Proposal Agency Name: _____						
Program: _____						
Budget Period: _____						
A	B	C	D	E	E	F
Position Title	Current Individual in Position	Projected Hrly Rate as of 1st Day of Budget Period	Hours per Week	Amnt Funded by this program for Budget Period	Amnt Funded by other sources for Budget Period	Site*
Example:						
Program Coordinator	Sandra Smith	\$21.00	40	\$43,680	\$43,680	
Administrative Salaries						
Total Admin. Salaries				\$0	\$0	
Direct Service Salaries						
Total Direct Salaries				\$0	\$0	
Total Salaries by Program				\$0.00	\$0.00	
Please note, any forms downloaded from the DHHS website will NOT calculate. Forms will be sent electronically via e-mail to all programs submitting a Letter of Intent by the due date.						
*Please list which site(s) each staff member works at, if your agency has multiple sites.						

APPENDIX F
RFP: Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and
System for Home and Community Based Services Survey

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS	VENDOR RESPONSE	VENDOR COMMENTS
<p>Instructions:</p> <p>“Vendor Response” Column - Place a “Yes” if the implementation of the Service can fully comply with the requirement described in the row, without special customization. A “Yes” can only be used if the requirement describes your standard service. Otherwise, enter “No”; A “No” may only be used if the requirement will be met in the future or is not available.</p> <p>“Vendor Comments” Column – Provide comments/brief explanation to support your response. This column must be used to explain a “No” response and/or propose alternative approaches to fulfilling the requirement. Free form text can be entered into this column.</p>		
A GENERAL DATA SECURITY AND PRIVACY		
A.1 The Vendor shall be strictly prohibited from releasing or using data or information obtained in its capacity as a collector and processor of the data for any purposes other than those specifically authorized by DHHS. Failure to comply could be a violation of NH laws and rules and may lead to voiding of the Contract.		
A.2 The Vendor shall conduct an annual security assessment, performed by an independent third-party security vendor, to verify that the Vendor's environment containing the projects data is secure. Broader Vendor-wide assessments that include the project's systems are acceptable. The Vendor shall provide certification of assessment to DHHS.		
A.3 As the state's agent, the Vendor must provide certification of compliance with the requirements of the Health Insurance Portability & Accountability Act (HIPAA) and DHHS' standard business associate agreement.		
A.4 As the state's agent, the Vendor must provide certification of compliance with the requirements of the United States Commerce Department's National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and the Open Web Application Security Project (OWASP).		
A.5 In carrying out the duties of this Contract, the Vendor shall be the agent and business associate of DHHS. As such, it is bound by applicable State and federal laws regarding health care information.		
A.6 The Vendor shall provide access to the State with a secure FTP or web site to be used by the State for uploading and downloading files.		
A.7 The Vendor shall notify the State's Project Manager of any security breaches within two (2) hours of the time that the Vendor learns of the occurrence.		

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TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS	VENDOR RESPONSE	VENDOR COMMENTS
A.8 The Vendor shall ensure its complete cooperation with the State's Chief Information Officer in the detection of any security vulnerability of the 'Vendor' hosting infrastructure and/or the application.		
A.9 The Vendor shall be solely liable for costs associated with any breach of State data housed at their location(s) including but not limited to notification and any damages assessed by the courts.		
B APPLICATION SECURITY REQUIREMENTS		
B.1 Verify the identity or authenticate all of the system client applications before allowing use of the system to prevent access to inappropriate or confidential data or services.		
B.2 Verify the identity or authenticate all of the system's human users before allowing them to use its capabilities to prevent access to inappropriate or confidential data or services.		
B.3 Enforce unique user names.		
B.4 Enforce complex non-reusable passwords of ten (10) characters or more that contain at least one upper case, one lower case, one numeric, and one symbol.		
B.5 Passwords should be forced to an Administrator reset after three (3) failed attempts.		
B.6 Encrypt passwords in transmission and at rest within the database.		
B.7 Expire passwords after ninety-days days.		
B.8 Authorize users and client applications to prevent access to inappropriate or confidential data or services.		
B.9 Provide the ability to limit the number of people that can grant or change authorizations		
B.10 Provide the ability to enforce session timeouts during State-defined periods of inactivity.		
B.11 Ensure the application has been tested and hardened to prevent critical application security flaws. (At a minimum, the application shall be tested against all flaws outlined in the Open Web Application Security Project (OWASP) Top Ten (http://www.owasp.org/index.php/OWASP_Top_Ten_Project))		
B.12 The application shall not store authentication credentials or Sensitive Data in its code.		
B.13 Audit all attempted accesses that fail or succeed identification, authentication, and authorization requirements		
B.14 The application shall log all activities to a central server to prevent parties to application transactions from denying that they have taken place. The logs must be kept for six (6) months		
B.15 The application must allow a user to explicitly terminate a session. No remnants of the prior session should then remain.		
B.16 The Application Data shall be protected from unauthorized use when at rest		
B.17 Keep any Sensitive Data or communications private from unauthorized individuals and programs.		

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TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS	VENDOR RESPONSE	VENDOR COMMENTS
B.18 Subsequent application enhancements or upgrades shall not remove or degrade security requirements		
B.19 Conform to all State and Federal laws and regulations regarding data security		
B.20 Create change management documentation and procedures		

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C HOSTING REQUIREMENTS		
C.1 The Vendor shall maintain a secure hosting environment providing all necessary hardware, software, and Internet bandwidth to manage the system and data submitters and the State with permission based logins. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access will be via Internet Explorer Version 7, or as otherwise agreed to by DHHS. 		
C.2 The Vendor will not be responsible for network connection issues, problems or conditions arising from or related to circumstances outside the control of the Vendor, ex: bandwidth, network outages and /or any other conditions arising on the data submitters internal network or, more generally, outside the Vendor's firewall or any issues that are the responsibility of the data submitters Internet Service Provider. .		
C.3 Vendor shall provide a secure Tier 3 or 4 Data Center providing equipment, an on-site 24/7 system operator, managed firewall services, and managed backup Services.		
C.4 The Vendor must monitor the application and all servers.		
C.5 The Vendor shall manage the databases and services on all servers located at the Vendor's facility.		
C.6 The Vendor shall install and update all server patches, updates, and other utilities within 60 days of release from the manufacturer.		
C.7 The Vendor shall monitor System, security, and application logs.		
C.8 The Vendor shall manage the sharing of data resources.		
C.9 The Vendor shall manage daily backups, off-site data storage, and restore operations.		
C.10The Vendor shall monitor physical hardware.		
C.11The Vendor shall provide validation that they have adequate disaster recovery procedures in place.		
C.12The Vendor shall have documented disaster recovery plans that address the recovery of lost State data as well as their own. Systems shall be architected to meet the defined recovery needs.		
C.13The disaster recovery plan shall identify appropriate methods for procuring additional hardware in the event of a component failure. In most instances, systems shall offer a level of redundancy so the loss of a drive or power supply will not be sufficient to terminate services however, these failed components will have to be replaced.		
C.14The Vendor shall adhere to a defined and documented back-up schedule and procedure.		
C.15Back-up copies of data are made for the purpose of facilitating a restore of the data in the event of data loss or System failure.		
C.16Scheduled backups of all servers must be completed weekly.		
C.17 The minimum acceptable frequency is differential backup daily, and complete backup weekly.		
C.18 Tapes or other back-up media tapes must be securely transferred from the site to another secure location to avoid complete data loss with the loss of a facility.		

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C.19 If State data is personally identifiable, data must be encrypted in the operation environment and on back up tapes.		
C.20 Data recovery – In the event that recovery back to the last backup is not sufficient to recover State Data, the Vendor shall employ the use of database logs in addition to backup media in the restoration of the database(s) to afford a much closer to real-time recovery. To do this, logs must be moved off the volume containing the database with a frequency to match the business needs.		
D HOSTING REQUIREMENTS – NETWORK ARCHITECTURE		
C.21 The Vendor must operate hosting Services on a network offering adequate performance to meet the business requirements for the State application. For the purpose of this project, adequate performance is defined as 99.5% uptime, exclusive of the regularly scheduled maintenance window.		
C.22 The Vendor shall provide network redundancy deemed adequate by the State by assuring redundant connections provided by multiple Internet Vendors, so that a failure of one Internet connection will not interrupt access to the State application.		
C.23 The Vendor' network architecture must include redundancy of routers and switches in the Data Center.		
C.24 Remote access shall be customized to the State's business application. In instances where the State requires access to the application or server -resources not in the DMZ, the Vendor shall provide remote desktop connection to the server through secure protocols such as a Virtual Private Network (VPN).		
E HOSTING REQUIREMENTS - SECURITY		
C.25 The Vendor shall employ security measures that ensure the State's data is protected.		
C.26 If State data is hosted on multiple servers, data exchanges between and among servers must be encrypted.		
C.27 All servers and devices must have currently-supported and hardened operating systems, the latest anti-viral, anti-hacker, anti-spam, anti-spyware, and anti-malware utilities. The environment, as a whole, shall have aggressive intrusion-detection and firewall protection.		
C.28 All components of the infrastructure shall be reviewed and tested to ensure they protect the State's hardware, software, and its related data assets. Tests shall focus on the technical, administrative, and physical security controls that have been designed into the System architecture in order to provide confidentiality, integrity, and availability.		
C.29 In the development or maintenance of any code, the Vendor shall ensure that the Software is independently verified and validated using a methodology determined appropriate by the State. All software and hardware shall be free of malicious code.		
C.30 The Vendor shall authorize the State to perform scheduled and random security audits, including vulnerability assessments, of the Vendor' hosting infrastructure and/or the application upon request.		

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C.31The Vendor shall provide fire detection and suppression system, physical security of and infrastructure security of the proposed hosting facility. The environmental support equipment of the Vendor website hosting facility: power conditioning; HVAC; UPS; generator must be acceptable to the State.		
F HOSTING REQUIREMENTS - SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT		
C.32The DHHS and Health Facilities shall have unlimited access, via phone or Email, to the Vendor Help Desk technical support staff between the hours of 8:30am to 5:00pm-Monday thru Friday EST.		
C.33The Vendor telephone or e-mail response time for technical support shall be no more than twenty-four (24) hours.		
C.34The Vendor shall guarantee 99.5% uptime, exclusive of the regularly scheduled maintenance window		